THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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CENTRE ISSUES NORMS FOR FILM SHOOTING AMID COVID

Govt on Sunday released standard operating procedure to resume production activities put on ice due to Covid-19

SOME EXEMPTIONS FOR ACTORS

The SOP includes steps like social distancing and mandatory use of masks for cast and crew, except for actors in front of camera. Production aspects like scenes, sequences, positions of crew members, meal timings etc must be planned in advance to ensure distancing. Spitting is prohibited and all cast and crew members are required to follow respiratory etiquettes

FILM FRATERNITY WELCOMES THE MOVE

- Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said thousands of people depend on the movie industry for jobs, and as such, the resumption of production activities is crucial
- Members of film fraternity, including filmmakers Boney Kapoor and Ashoke Pandit, welcomed the government's decision

SOP

WAS PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH UNION HEALTH AND HOME MINISTRIES

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Sonia offers to step down; CWC meet today

23 leaders demand an active, publicly visible chief for party; Rahul still unwilling to take over: Sources

RICHA SHARMA @ New Delhi

SONIA Gandhi offered to step down as interim Congress chief on Sunday, a day before the crucial Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting, after 23 leaders shot off a letter seeking a change in leadership. Sonia told General Secretary Organisation K C Venugopal to convey this to the party leaders who wrote the letter, sources said.

As per party rules, the Congress chief has to send resignation to the CWC. Sources said she will do so on Monday at the CWC meeting, even as Congress spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala denied reports of Sonia resigning.

Following the dissent letter by a group of senior party leaders, several party men including Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh, Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Bhagel, as well as several state Congress chiefs rallied behind the Gandhis. They called upon Rahul Gandhi to take over if Sonia steps down.

However, sources said Rahul is unwilling to lead the party. They added that at the CWC, Sonia will be requested to continue to lead the party, while a process is rolled out to look for a new chief and restructure the organisation.

Sources revealed the reason the letter was leaked in the run up to the CWC meet was because many senior leaders feel sidelined as Rahul continues to call the shots in all major party decisions, without taking formal party responsibilities and mostly being inaccessible to the party's rank and file for any consultative processes.

Along with sister Priyanka Gandhi-Vadra, Rahul is also said to have been rather critical of party leaders for not taking on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his policies rather gingerly and not as much as required. "They (the signatories of the dissenting note) want the matter to be discussed in the CWC and a process for time-bound restructuring of the party to be rolled out soon," said a senior leader.

Sonia took over as interim chief on August 10, 2019 after Rahul stepped down, taking responsibility for the party's Lok Sabha debacle.

"She was reluctant and was convinced to lead the party for the time being, on the understanding that the party would start the process of looking for a new chief. But that did not happen," said a senior party leader. The issue of leadership vacuum was raised by several leaders during a parliamentary party meeting with Sonia last month. Leaders who have written to Sonia include, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma, Kapil Sibal, and Shashi Tharoor. P7,9

Demand for a party rehaul at this critical juncture would be detrimental to its interests... Sonia Gandhi should continue to helm the Congress as long as she wants

Amarinder Singh, Punjab CM

The entire Congress party in Karnataka stands by the leadership of Sonia Gandhi and the Gandhi family

D K Shivakumar, president, Karnataka Congress

BUZZ ON A K ANTONY

There are chances of A K Antony coming at the helm of the party, according to some leaders in Kerala. State Congress leaders feel if Rahul declines to take up the role, then in all likelihood Antony will emerge as next president

She (Sonia) has always taken challenges head on. But if she has made up her mind, Rahul Gandhi should come ahead and be the party head

Ashok Gehlot, Rajasthan CM

Reports of Sonia Gandhi resigning from the post of Congress interim president are false

Randeep Singh Surjewala, Congress spokesperson

DKS terms letter 'indiscipline', bats for Rahul's return

ANUSHA RAVI @Bengaluru

RIGHT from Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president D K Shivakumar and former Chief Minister and Legislature Party Chief Siddaramaiah to other Karnataka Congress leaders have firmly put their weight behind AICC interim president Sonia Gandhi and the Gandhi family to head the party at the national level.

Even as former Karnataka chief minister Veerappa Moily is said to be one of the signatories to a letter seeking changes in the party leadership, Shivakumar on Sunday evening wrote a two-page letter to Sonia Gandhi urging her to continue as AICC president. Terming leaking of the letter seeking a change in leadership to the media as an act of indiscipline, Shivakumar said such acts will set a bad example. He insisted that if Sonia had decided it was time for a change in leadership, then Rahul Gandhi should be persuaded to replace her.

"Anyone can discuss anything within the party forum, but signing such a letter and leaking it to the media is indiscipline," Shivakumar told *The New Indian Express*. CONTINUED ON: P7

I-T TO CLAMP DOWN ON UNEXPLAINED INCOME, PLANS HIGHER FINES

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

IF you have done heavy cash withdrawals, large cash transfers or enjoyed luxury holidays after 2016, be ready with proper documentation because the income tax (I-T) department is likely to seek an explanation.

Sources say the I-T department is gearing up to clamp down on tax evaders and is mulling steep penalties for higher-than-disclosed income and unexplained expenditure as well as cash transactions.

"While we will protect honest tax payers, starting this year the department will closely monitor any incident of tax evasion in I-T return form with strict penalties," said a senior official.

He explained that if someone has withdrawn or deposited heavy cash, spent large amounts on luxury holidays that don't match with one's income, or has spent a lot on credit card, it will be open to close scrutiny. If there is a mismatch between the income disclosed and savings or expenditure, it could result in penalties going as high as 83%.

If the tax department detects undisclosed saving, cash at home, gold jewellery or other valuable article, the value of such items will be deemed as the income of the taxpayer under Sec 69A of Income Tax Act.

EXPRESS READ

New Trump campaign ad features Modi

Washington: US President Donald Trump's campaign team on Saturday released a commercial that included clips from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speeches. Modi is seen as saying Trump "needs no introduction" and that "his name comes up in almost every conversation" | P11

BJP, JD(U), LJP allies in Bihar polls: Nadda

New Delhi: All the three NDA constituents in Bihar - the BJP, the JD(U) and the LJP - will together fight the coming assembly elections in the state with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar as the face of the alliance, BJP president J P Nadda said on Sunday and expressed confidence that they will emerge victorious. Whenever the three parties have fought together, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has notched up a big victory, the BJP chief said.

TikTok's parent firm to sue Trump admin

New York: Chinese firm ByteDance, which owns TikTok is preparing to file a lawsuit on Monday, challenging US President Donald Trump's executive order giving Americans 45 days to stop doing business with it | P11

UK approached to get Sharif back: Pak

Islamabad/Lahore: The Pakistan government has declared former PM Nawaz Sharif, currently in London, an 'absconder' and approached the UK government for extradition.

WITH THIS ISSUE
THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex
34 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID) & 4 of city Express

Docs, other med staff call off state-wide stir

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

MEMBERS of the Karnataka Government Medical Officer's Association (KGMOA), who were protesting against the suicide of Dr Nagendra -- the Taluk Health Officer from Nanjangud -- due to work pressure, called off their strike on Sunday.

The KGMOA had threatened not to treat any patients, including the Covid-infected, if the government failed to meet their demands.

However, following an assurance from Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa to look into their demands, the medical staffers withdrew their strike. CONTINUED ON: P4

Contempt plea against Swara: Petitioner now approaches S-G

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

AFTER Attorney General KK Venugopal dismissed a plea to initiate criminal contempt proceedings against actor **Swara Bhaskar** for her comments on Supreme Court's verdict in the Ayodhya dispute, the petitioner on Sunday approached the Solicitor General, Tushar Mehta.

In a letter to Mehta, Usha Shetty, the petitioner, says she differs with the reasons given by the Attorney General.

A-G Venugopal in a letter to Shetty noted that Bhaskar's comment appear to be "a factual one and is a perception of the speaker. The comment refers to the judgment of the Supreme Court, and is not an attack on the institution. This does not offer any comment on the Supreme Court itself or say anything that would scandalise or lower the authority of the Supreme Court." In February, Bhaskar reportedly said, "We are living in a country where the SC states that the demolition of Babri Masjid was unlawful and in the same judgment rewards the same people who brought it down."

UNIQUE CELEBRATION

For son's birthday, father gets Bagalkot village school painted

MAHESH M GOUDAR @Bagalkot

THE Headmaster and staff at the Government High School in Herishivanagutti village had a pleasant surprise when they went back to the school after the weekend recently. The school building which had not seen a coat of paint for decades looked bright and shining.

The credit for this goes to Mohammad Sabh Agra (41), a resident of the village who is a Group-D employee (peon) at the school. He chose a unique way to make his six-year-old son's birthday memorable. He got the school building painted with his own money.

His gesture has won appreciation from all -- Primary and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar to Zilla Panchayat CEO T Bhooblan to the people.

Amidst financial difficulties, he has spent around Rs 30,000 to ensure that the school where he works gets a new look. A couple of months ago, he had spent over Rs 3 lakh for the heart surgery of his only son Mohammad Mustaf (6).

The school which received a fresh coat of paint from Mohammad Sabh Agra (below) | EXPRESS

"I wanted to celebrate my son's birthday in a unique way. Initially, I had managed to mobilize only Rs 10,000. But as the estimated cost shot up to Rs 30,000, I took a loan and got the school painted," Mohammad Sabh told *TNIE*. P7

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Duration : 3 Years, Eligibility : Must have passed 10+2 or its equivalent with 40% aggregate preferably Science PCBE) or any other stream (Arts, Commerce) with English (Certified by Karnataka State Nursing Council)

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ALMANAC TODAY
Monday 24/08/2020 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana: Dakshinayana • Ritu: Varsha • Masa: Bhdrapada • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Sashti 6:53 pm • Nakshatra: Swathi 8:26 pm • Moon in Vrischika Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER WATCH
MIN 20°C | MAX 38°C
FORECAST: Light showers. Mostly cloudy.
Sunrise 6.08 am | Sunset 6.35 pm | Moonrise 11.00 am | Moonset 11.00 pm

CUBBON PARK OPENS TO TRAFFIC, GREENS IRKED

Citizen group in talks with firms that could provide cycles, e-vehicles

NO VEHICULAR MOVEMENT DURING WEEKEND, NIGHTS

Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) B R Ravikanthe Gowda told The New Indian Express that vehicles were permitted inside the park from Monday morning. Gowda told TNIE, "The restrictions on vehicle movement as per earlier orders will be in place during nights, weekends, second and fourth Saturdays, and other national holidays. We are allowing vehicles following a directive from the Chief Secretary."

We need more voices to champion our cause. The landmark green cover is the only urban lung space we have, and as citizens, it's our right to ensure Cubbon Park remains clean and green
Dr Umesh Kumar, President of Cubbon Park Walkers' Association

MG CHETAN @Bengaluru

THE State government has allowed traffic movement inside Cubbon Park around five months after it was closed due to the lockdown. Citizen groups however, are not happy, and want the government to keep vehicles out of the city's iconic lung space to keep it pollution-free.

Well over a 100 years old, the 190-odd acre park saw cleaner air and an improved atmosphere for flora, fauna and greenery to to thrive, according to citizen group Heritage Beku. In June this year, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Council had unanimously passed a resolution to ban vehicles in the 190-odd acre park, the group said. Now, however, the State government is has allowed pre-lockdown traffic movement to continue.

In a letter to Chief Secretary T M Vijay Bhaskar, Heritage Beku member Priya Chetty-Rajagopal said, "We have spoken to several experts and stakeholders like the Bengaluru Traffic Police, who opined while managing full traffic might be difficult, a few changes in directions and introducing more one-way routes would resolve a lot of traffic problems, particularly considering that Namma Metro and suburban rail in the future, will be more viable modes of transportation."

Priya said that a dipstick study showed there was hardly any impact on traffic due to the restrictions imposed during the lockdown. The forum was also in talks with several organizations that could provide buggies, cycles and electric vehicles that could help the elderly, differently-abled and children to access the park fully.

Priya also said that when Traffic Free Cubbon Park was suggested to the government in June, Mayor Goutham Kumar, the then BBMP commissioner, several ministers – including Horticulture Minister BC Patil – and Secretary to the Horticulture Department were in favour of the suggestion to make Cubbon Park pollution-free. However, now, the government has retracted its support, she said.

President of Cubbon Park Walkers' Association Dr Umesh Kumar said although the campaign to make Cubbon Park traffic-free started in 2012, it has gained momentum only in the past few years. "We need more voices to champion our cause. The landmark green cover is the only urban lung space we have, and as citizens, it's our right to ensure Cubbon Park remains clean and green."

Cubbon Park saw cleaner air and improved flora and fauna during the lockdown | EXPRESS

BIDDING BAPPA GOODBYE
A Ganesha idol is immersed in a BBMP tank during the visarjan ceremony in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHRIRAM B N

Botched results? Five jockeys test negative the second time

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

JOCKEYS applying for a licence for the upcoming racing season were in for a shock when 10 of them tested Covid-positive recently. The Bangalore Turf Club (BTC) has made it mandatory for jockeys applying for a licence to produce a Covid-negative certificate.

As they had no symptoms, they decided to get tested at another lab, and five tested negative. The rest are awaiting results.

The jockeys who tested positive had a harrowing experience till their second test results came back. Also, these jockeys are living on loans given by the Jockeys Association of India (JAI).

JAI has provided them with a loan of Rs 10,000 per month since the lockdown in March. They also paid for the tests of jockeys who could not afford it. The BTC refused to help.

Jockey Ryan Ahmed (22) said Aster Labs conducted the first round of tests on the BTC premises. "My family and I were shocked by the results. Luckily, the second test came back negative. Three more jockeys await results from the second test. Two have been taken to a BBMP Covid Care Centre and couldn't take the second test."

JAI president Pradeep Chouhan said, "The 10 who first tested positive spent a lot of money for treatment. I'm told this is happening in many cases where tests are done in private labs."

An Aster Labs spokesman said, "It is possible to get different results when the test is done on two different days. The results may change depending on viral load. The virus may shed in different amounts and may not be present in the back of the throat or nose when the swab is taken. It can also happen if the sample contains a dead virus."

BTP likely to rope in pvt agencies to send challans

PREEJA PRASAD @Bengaluru

BENGALURU Traffic Police (BTP) is looking at roping in private parties to either send out challans to traffic violators or collect fines.

Recently, BTP started a contactless system to collect fines, wherein the traffic police use either the PublicEye app or a mobile phone to click a picture of the violator's registration number. The information is then sent to the Traffic Management Centre (TMC) for verification. Then, the challan is sent to the violator's home address and a notice to the local traffic police station, informing about the violation.

ACP Traffic Planning, Kavitha MC said, "The initiative began in 2002 and today, about 50 per cent fines are being collected this way." She added that the system "gained more relevance during the lockdown".

A source informed TNIE that the traffic police are looking at bringing in private parties since several challans do not reach the address provided by the violator. "Many addresses aren't valid. We are still in the preliminary stage of discussion on this and are looking at it," the source said. However, private parties are yet to come forward.

"The contactless system had to be introduced as it is risky for our personnel to come in direct contact with people to charge fines," a senior traffic official said.

Now, post that gift to your favourite teacher

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

WONDERING what to buy or how to send a gift to your teacher? Karnataka Postal Circle is launching a special scheme to help students buy gifts online for their mentors before Teacher's Day. Aptly titled 'Guru Vandana', the service will be available from Tuesday.

S Rajendra Kumar, Post Master General Bengaluru HQ Region, told TNIE, "The tremendous response we got for our online 'Rakhi Post' scheme made us decide to extend to other important events. An array of gifts including a seed pencil, a pencil that can be planted after using it are among the items available at the postal department. This is an eco-friendly venture from our side as the recipient can write using the pencil and the seed fixed at the end of the pencil can be planted."

The department is in the process of procuring a variety of gifts, Kumar said, adding "These are largely token gifts with the gesture being significant. Hence, the total cost including the despatch by Speed Post is fixed at ₹100."

The special Teacher's Day envelope

This apart, personalised messages can be added along with the gifts. The present will be dispatched in a specially-designed envelope with 'Teacher's Day' greeting printed on it along with a safety message saying, "Dear teacher, wear a mask, stay safe."

Though items are presently only showcased at the Bengaluru office, bookings as well as delivery will be done across the country. The sale will be closed on September 1 and bookings can be made on karnatakapost.gov.in/Guru_Vandana.

EXPRESS READ

Realtor tries to shut down food stall, attacked

Two men attacked a real estate agent in AK Colony in KR Puram on Saturday. The victim, Babu, is a resident of Chandapura and runs a real estate agency. The accused Sohail used to run a food stall in front of Babu's office building after which the latter had tried to make Sohail vacate the area. KR Puram police said, angry over this, around 9.30 pm, Sohail and his friend Mirza barged inside the office. Mirza opened fire at Babu and shot him in the hand and Sohail tried to attack Babu with a machete. A case has been registered. **ENS**

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

24th August : There's no reason for anyone to fall out - even if we do get on each other's nerves! The reason that we make forecasts such as this is to alert people to potential provocation and encourage everyone to make an effort to see each other's points of view. It's always better to agree, even to agree to differ.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Given that the overwhelming emphasis of your solar chart is on self-indulgence and unrestricted pleasure, you should try to keep routine and bothersome chores to a minimum. At work, how about a spot of day-dreaming? You never know - you might come up with the answer to a long-running problem.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
The very fact that the Moon is making such a particular alignment with your sign means that, symbolically speaking, the world lies at your feet. You can do yourself a great deal of good by using every trick in the book to boost your self-confidence.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
To some extent your behaviour will be quite out of character, in that you will be inclined to keep your feelings to yourself, at least until lunchtime! Such will be the change during the day however that, by evening, indiscretion will be your watchword!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You have a reputation for being among the most romantic inhabitants of the cosmos, and today's inspired Sun-Neptune alignment will bring your expectations to a new peak. Only if you are completely unrealistic will you run the risk of disappointment.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
The one plain and simple fact is that your sign is now enjoying planetary influences which are more buoyant, optimistic and good-hearted than any since at least 1992, if not a great deal longer. Do yourself a favour and avoid utterly unnecessary and pointless confrontations.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
It's not always easy to broaden your horizons, but you could have a go! Consider the ethical and moral issues of your actions, and check out all and any overseas implications. It's a good moment to finalise travel arrangements, and spiritually it's a time to grow.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
You can think the unthinkable, but do pay a little more attention than usual to financial affairs, especially as far as they concern other people. Fortunately, any fears or worries may now turn out to be no more than the vague stirrings of your too vivid imagination.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You will be obliged to take serious notice of good advice, even if it is not exactly what you wanted to hear. There is really no doubt about that, but you may find that there is almost unlimited flexibility when it comes to putting your plans into action.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Pain is usually followed by pleasure and, having dealt with purely routine and unexciting tasks, you will be free to enjoy the fruits of your success. In many ways today should be like a miniature version of the good life: work hard this morning and relax this afternoon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
You are now in the build-up to the next major lunar pattern, an event of deep significance which will enable you to embark on significant new initiatives. If this makes you feel important, it should, for you will have a chance to take a prominent role in your community.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Your solar chart is not a good tool for monitoring physical well-being, but right now we can conclude that your very sensitivity makes this a perfect moment to move in and take whatever steps are necessary in terms of diet or exercise to boost your fitness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Work hard and play hard seems to be the message coming from your celestial alignments. A determined Moon will enable you, as a Piscean, to put your point across with greater certainty than usual. Your imagination is now in top gear and relations could be mightily impressed.

THE PHANTOM

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

THIS IS YOUR AT-HOME WORK SCHEDULE?
YEAH, WHY?
(9:00) BREAKFAST. (9:30) COMPUTER GAMES. (9:45-9:50) START REPORT. (9:50) POWER NAP. (10:00) BREAK
ACTUALLY, I JUST COPIED AND PASTED MY OFFICE SCHEDULE, MINUS THE SNACK MACHINES

LOCKHORNS

"LET IT GO, LEROY... BARISTAS CAN'T REMEMBER EVERY CUSTOMER'S NAME."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"HE'S AN ACCIDENT THAT NEVER WAITS TO HAPPEN"

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

	1		7			2		8
	8			9	2	1		7
	2						5	
			3		8	5		
				6				
		4	5		7			
	7						4	
1		6	9	2			7	
9		8			5		6	

MEDIUM

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

8	5	9	2	7	6	4	3	1
6	1	3	9	4	8	2	5	7
2	4	7	3	1	5	9	6	8
9	2	4	6	5	7	1	8	3
7	6	1	8	3	9	5	4	2
3	8	5	1	2	4	7	9	6
5	7	2	4	6	3	8	1	9
4	3	8	7	9	1	6	2	5
1	9	6	5	8	2	3	7	4

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BEIAD

SFCOU

LEEAGB

GDEAAN

That's a long way down there.
You two are making me very nervous!
Get away from there!
Take a picture, Mommy!
WHEN THE KIDS GOT TOO CLOSE TO THE RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON, THEIR PARENTS WERE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here: ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: FILTH KOALA DEGREE BUZZER
Answer: Getting Penny Marshall to direct and Tom Hanks to star in the 1988 film was a — BIG DEAL

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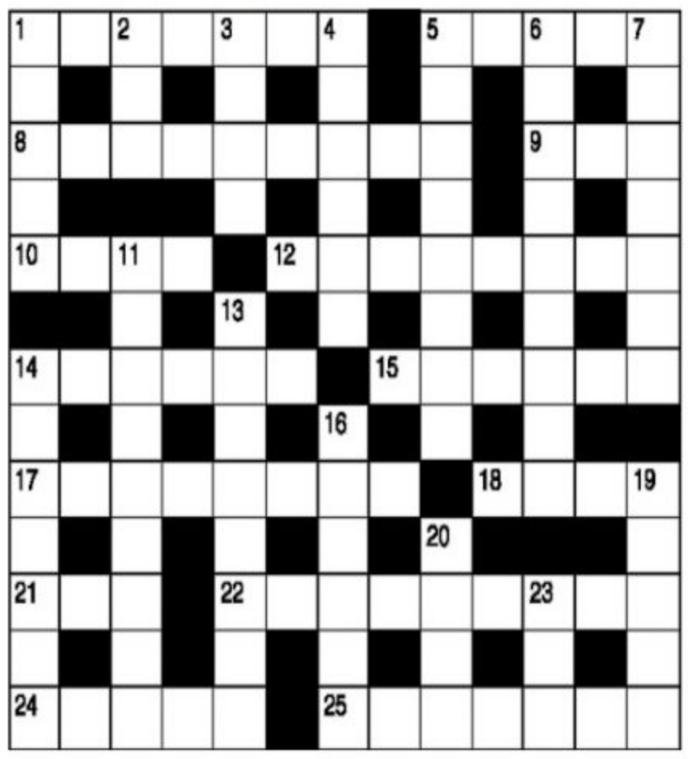
CROSS WORD



ACROSS
1 Soldiers ordered to hold oil installation (7)
5 He gave people the law and doctors directions (5)
8 Quietly go back to book for earlier instance (9)
9 A half of beer for Lincoln (3)
10 Becomes stiff (4)
12 Start playing up after industrial action (6,2)
14 Share it with Nora perhaps (6)
15 Exchange of charity? (6)
17 Mother has to think deeply about a perfume holder (8)
18 A Roman emperor in a manner of speaking (4)
21 I write a note and leave (3)
22 Recovering, need month off (2,3,4)
24 Exhausted writer found in the street (5)
25 A roll containing nothing but chicken (7)

DOWN
1 Creature given double support (5)
2 Rage that is inwardly right (3)
3 A chance to offer support (4)
4 They happen to upset Steven (6)
5 Lacking a real foundation? (8)
6 Dramatic alias (5,4)
7 Earring found on the railway (7)
11 Off the cuff, so to speak (9)
13 Indicate that the score is not quite accurate (5,3)
14 Put down to do more evening work? (7)
16 He needs to settle (6)
19 Direct a sequence (5)
20 Sign put up by Verne's captain (4)
23 Amphibian left without its head (3)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Departed, 5 Maid, 9 Tired, 10 Imagine, 11 Missionaries, 13 Lotion, 14 Sexton, 17 Express train, 20 Inkwell, 21 Utter, 22 Garb, 23 Gradient.

Down: 1 Date, 2 Persist, 3 Rediscovered, 4 Edison, 6 Alibi, 7 Dressing, 8 Parade ground, 12 Altering, 15 Thistle, 16 Ostler, 18 Poker, 19 Trot.

Karnataka has taken a turn for the better. Despite seeing 7,000-8,000 new cases daily, the recovery rate has shot up to 68.23 per cent, the mortality rate has dipped to 1.68 per cent, according to the state war room. The recovery rate was a poor 35.29 per cent on July 20.

MP Suresh demands probe into phone-tap

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BENGALURU Rural MP **D K Suresh** on Sunday demanded a proper investigation into KPCC President DK Shivakumar's phone allegedly being tapped, and said the BJP is obstructing individual freedom. "It has been brought to the notice of the police department. For 10-15 days, there has been a lot of disturbance during phone calls," he said.

Shivakumar had on Friday expressed doubts that his phone was being tapped, catching the government on the wrong foot. Industries Minister Jagadish Shettar and Union minister Pralhad Joshi had rushed to the government's rescue, and reminded Shivakumar in not too polite terms that he had been arrested by the Enforcement Directorate and IT officials and sent to prison, and is out on bail. Hence, he should not talk about phone-tapping.

Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai had rubbished Shivakumar's claims.

Congress working president Saleem Ahmed said Shivakumar was arrested after he "safely housed" Gujarat MLAs whom the BJP later poached, a price he paid for remaining loyal to the party. Shivakumar's phone was being tapped after the Jana Dhwani programme was launched to expose government corruption, he said, and claimed he had heard disturbances and echoes on the line, indicating that it was being tapped.

Suresh said, "BJP is an expert in this... Instead of talking about what happened during our time (Congress govt), talk about what you are doing. It is the government's duty to investigate it." Last August, the BJP government ordered a CBI probe into alleged phone-tapping during the Congress-JDS government.

In the past week, rain and a flooding Malaprabha have created havoc, washing away a part of a bridge across NH-52 near Konnur in Gadag | EXPRESS

BSY to conduct aerial survey of flood-hit areas

Around 20,000 hectares of farmland in many villages affected in North Karnataka

MAHESH M GOUDAR
@Bagalkot/Vijayapura

CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa will visit flood-affected areas in North Karnataka on August 25.

Heavy showers in the Western Ghats, basins of Krishna and its tributaries (Ghataprabha, Malaprabha, Marakandeya, Dhudganga and Vedhaganga) have led to floods in parts of Belagavi, Bagalkot, Gadag, Dharwad and Vijayapura for the second consecutive year, affecting over 20,000 hectares of farmlands and damaging infrastructure in many villages and highways in the region.

Amidst the surging Covid-19 cases, the CM has decided to conduct a one-day aerial survey, accompanied by a couple of cabinet ministers.

According to the tour programme released by Chief Minister's Office (CMO), the CM will leave Bengaluru at 9 am and will reach Sambra Airport of Belagavi at 10.15 am. He will hold a review meeting with officials and elected members of Belagavi and Dharwad before leaving for an aerial survey of the region. Around 12.30 pm, he will arrive at Almatti and preside over a review meeting with respective district ministers of Bagalkot, Vijayapura and Gadag elected members. Later, he will conduct an aerial survey before leaving for Bengaluru via Belagavi.

Officials of Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigam Limited (KBJNL) are making arrangements for the Bagina programme at Almatti Dam on August 25 though there is no mention of it in the itinerary released by the CMO. Last week, Yediyurappa had offered Bagina at KRS.

R P Kulkarni, Chief Engineer of KBJNL, told TNIE, "In the tour programme, it has been clearly mentioned that the CM will visit Almatti Dam, but not about Bagina. The CMO will communicate with Vijayapura District Administration and not KBJNL. We are not taking chances and making all the arrangements for the Bagina programme."

However, Deputy Commissioner P Sunil Kumar said, "The CM will visit Almatti Dam and then hold a meeting with the elected representatives and officials of the three districts before heading for an aerial survey. There will be no Bagina programme."

GKVK, Palace Grounds? Kageri to decide

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

THE government is going ahead with the legislature session from September 21, but the big question is where and how will it be held. Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri told *The New Indian Express* they are considering different options and have formed several teams, consisting of experts, to arrive at a decision.

Among the venues being considered are Gandhi Krishi Vigyana Kendra (GKVK), Palace Grounds and Judicial Academy. While these places are available, logistics is a daunting task. The session has to accommodate 225 MLAs and 75 MLCs, some of whom with up to four staff members, and also a number of officials.

LEGISLATURE SESSION

Vidhana Soudha secretariat has to take ample care while seating the members to avoid Covid infection and it is all the more important considering that majority of the legislators are over 55 years old. The secretariat staff also has to arrange for parking, canteen, space for the media etc, before zeroing in on the venue.

The other option is to hold the session at Vidhana Soudha itself after taking all necessary precautions.

The teams have already visited the Palace Grounds, GKVK campus and Judicial Academy, and are submitting details to the Speaker on Monday. Kageri and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J C Madhuswamy will visit the likely venues and get the reports before taking a final decision, sources said.

Kageri said that he will be in Bengaluru the whole of next week to consider various options and to finalise details. Madhuswamy said they will take a decision on Monday.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

Covid break for Big 2?

Political circles have not stopped talking about CM BS Yediyurappa and Opposition leader Siddaramaiah being ensconced in the VVIP suites on the 11th floor of the same hospital at the same time. They enjoyed utmost privacy for eight days as all four adjoining rooms on the floor were taken by them. While Yediyurappa and daughter Padmavathi occupied one room each, Siddaramaiah and his son Dr Yathindra occupied the remaining two. Two factors caught the gristmill's attention: The interlude came soon after DyCM Laxman Savadi took off to New Delhi, and there was much political gossip about a change in Karnataka's leadership, and that Siddaramaiah and Yediyurappa are extremely good friends, outside of politics. This coincidence has not gone unnoticed, and is still keeping the grapevine abuzz.

DKS, the chink is showing

KPCC president Shivakumar is known to be a man on the go. While other leaders have been avoiding supporters and meetings due to the Covid pandemic, the irrepressible Shivakumar has been out on the frontline. He didn't hesitate to visit Victoria Hospital, the nerve centre of Covid treatment, which even families of patients avoid. But the Congress strongman dropped his scheduled visit to Belagavi, complaining of dehydration and a touch of tiredness. While his aides expected him to rest it out, Shivakumar bounced back into action and addressed meetings. Was there something in Belagavi he was keen to avoid, considering the negative experience he's had with that district?

EXPRESS READ

3 held for selling hashish oil

Bengaluru: Suddaguntepalya police arrested three men and seized 950gm hashish oil worth Rs 30 lakh and 3kg ganja. They arrested Deepuraj (36), from Bengaluru, and Surakatthi Prabhakar (36) and Korra Kamaraju (21), from Visakhapatnam, based on a tip-off that they planned to sell drugs near a software company on Bannerghatta Road on Thursday. **ENS**

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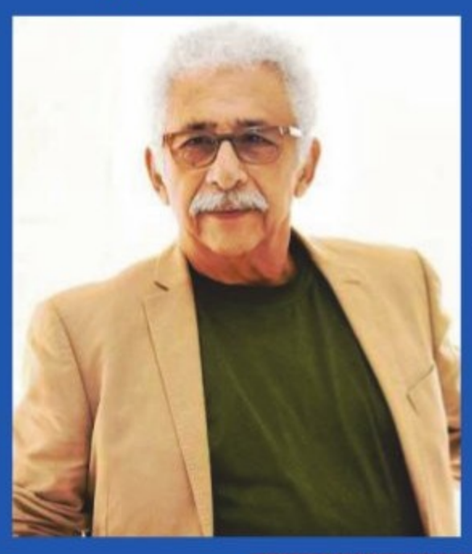

Naseeruddin Shah
Actor

IN CONVERSATION WITH
Kaveree Bamzai
Author and Journalist

MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 7 PM
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ആശംസകളോടെ...
കനറാ ബാങ്ക് Canara Bank
सिंडिकेट Syndicate

മലയാളം വാരിക

ഇപ്പോൾ വിൽപനയിൽ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Karnataka Government Secretariat,
M. S. Building, Bengaluru

NO: RD 32 GRC 2019 Dated: 16-05-2020

NOTIFICATION

It has come to the notice of the Government, that the financial establishments viz., Sri Karuppuswamy Promoters, Bengaluru, is involved in the fraudulent transactions and failed to return deposits to their depositors. Hence, the Government has decided to initiate action as per the provisions specified under the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (Karnataka Act 30 of 2005).

It is necessary to authorize Competent Authority to call for claims from all the depositors of Sri Karuppuswamy Promoters, Bengaluru.

Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 5(1) of The Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (Karnataka Act.30 of 2005), the Government of Karnataka, hereby appoint Assistant Commissioner, Bengaluru

South Sub-Division, Bengaluru as the -Competent Authority' in respect of Sri Karuppuswamy Promoters, Bengaluru with immediate effect.

By Order and in the name of the Governor of Karnataka
Sd/- (R. Yadukumar)
Under Secretary to Government (I/c)
Revenue Department Special Cell)
Telephone No: 080-22032691
E-mail: ussplcell-rev@karnataka.gov.in

To: The Compiler, Karnataka Gazette, Govt. Press, Vikasa Soudha, Bengaluru. (For publication in the Special Gazette)

Copy to:

1. The Chief Secretary to Government, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
2. Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
3. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Home Department, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
4. The Secretary to Government (Fiscal Reforms), Finance Department.
5. The Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru.
6. The Assistant Commissioner, Bengaluru South Sub-Division, Bengaluru and Competent Authority Sri Karuppuswamy Promoters, Bengaluru to take necessary action asper the provisions of the KPID Act 2004.
7. Director General and Inspector General of Police, Karnataka, Nrupatunga Road, Bengaluru-560 001.
8. Inspector General of Police, Economic Offences, CID, Carlton House, Palace Road, Bengaluru.
9. The Regional Director for Karnataka, Reserve Bank of India, MI Unit, DNBS, Nrupatunga Road, Bengaluru.
10. PS to The Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, M.S.Building, Bengaluru.
11. PA to Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department (Services-1, SSLR & Special Cell), M.S.Building, Bengaluru.
12. Private Secretary to Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
13. Under Secretary to Government, Finance Department (Exp-7/8), Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
14. Under Secretary to Government, Home Department (Crimes)
15. Spare Copy/Guard File.

DIPR/Alakananda/866/2020-21

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Trustees, Management and Staff of BMSET

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

COVID-19

04 BENGALURU MONDAY 24.08.2020

TRACKING COVID-19

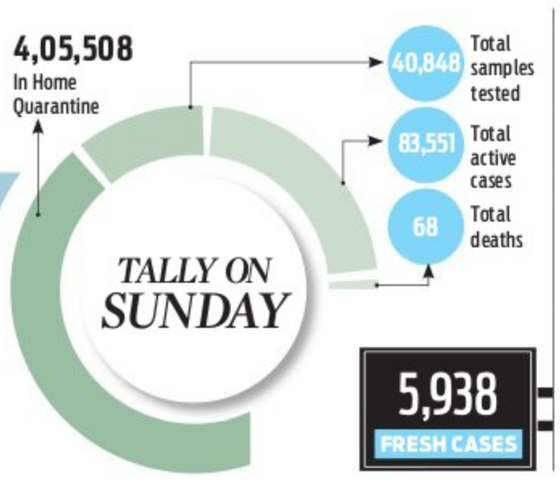
The demand for red tamarind has increased in Gadag district as it is said to have medicinal properties and is widely prescribed by traditional medical practitioners. People believe that it can treat cold and fever

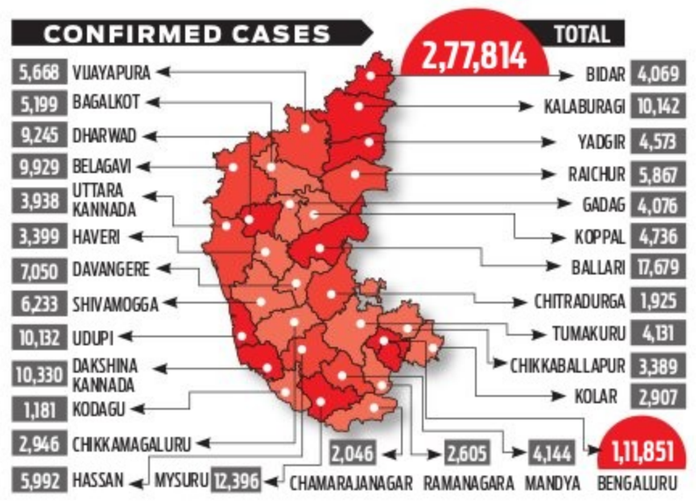
4,996 NEW RECOVERIES

1,89,564 TOTAL RECOVERED

HELPLINES
080-46848600
080-66692000

104 Arogya Sahayavani will function too





NEW HURDLE: HOSPITALS RUN SHORT OF O_2

Shortage due to surge in cases of patients with comorbidities, late reporting with respiratory distress

IFFATH FATHIMA @ Bengaluru

THE shortage of oxygen support is the new issue haunting hospitals treating Covid-19 patients. Recently, 23 patients on oxygen support at Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), had to be shifted after the hospital ran out of oxygen supply, highlighting the problem in many hospitals across the state.

Medical Education Minister Sudhakar K has said the government will make arrangements to supply liquid oxygen to all hospitals in the state. However, the question remains as to why so many patients are in need of oxygen. Medical experts state there is an increase in the number of patients with comorbidities, and late reporting by patients has also pushed up the need for oxygen.

Dr K Sudheesh, anesthetist at Bangalore Medical College Research Institute (BMCRI) who checks on critical Covid patients at Victoria Hospital, said, "There has been a surge in the number of patients with comorbidities reporting to hospital. Their immunity levels are low, their bodies are already weak and their condition deteriorates swiftly, so they need oxygen support. We have been advising patients with comorbidities to isolate themselves and avoid going out but it isn't happening, so more cases are coming in. In Covid wards too, we tell patients to take utmost care even after they are discharged. However, at Victoria Hospital, we have sufficient supply of oxygen and are using it judiciously."

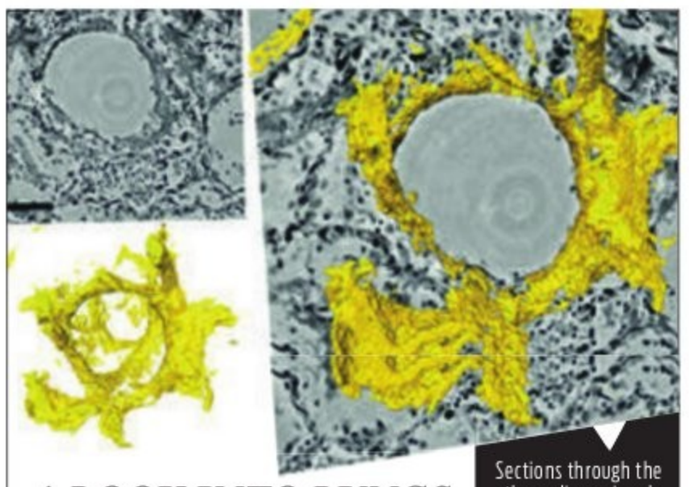
Doctors complain that patients who get respiratory problems at an early stage come to the hospital late, when oxygen is required | EXPRESS

Dr HM Prasanna, managing director of Pristine Hospital and president (elect) of Private Hospital and Nursing Association (PHANA), said that in the past week, the hospital saw 30 Covid patients being admitted, of whom 28 were in need of oxygen. "Comorbid patients reach hospital with respiratory distress, but have no symptoms of fever or cough. Patients who get respiratory problems at an early stage come to us late, when oxygen is required. Of these 28 patients, none had got themselves tested, which is a worrying sign as their condition was bad. People with comorbidities need to get tested for early detection, especially now that camps are being set up everywhere."

The other factor contributing to a high number of patients in need of oxygen is late reporting due to social stigma, say experts.

Dr C Nagaraj, director of Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases (RGICD), said, "Fear of the stigma that their houses will be sealed and barricaded deters patients from reporting to hospital. We have seen many cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI), where patients feel breathless and yet don't report due to the stigma. Those with comorbidities should not neglect these signs and reach hospital immediately. As it takes 5-7 days for the infection to set in and another two days for the report to come in, compounded by a delay of a couple of days in getting admitted to hospital due to fear, and the patient will suffer from acute pneumonia and need oxygen."

However, Smitha Segu, nodal officer, Covid Task Force at Victoria Hospital, said, "The number of cases is increasing, and so is the number of patients who need oxygen. Earlier, the cases reported were 50-100, but now Bengaluru alone is seeing over 2,000 cases, hence the large number of patients with severe symptoms. This apart, respiratory viral infections like SARI and ILI are surging."



A LOOK INTO LUNGS INFECTED BY COVID

German physicists at the University of Göttingen, along with pathologists and lung specialists at the Medical University of Hannover, have developed a three-dimensional imaging technique that, for the first time, enables high-resolution and three-dimensional representation of a damaged lung tissue affected by Covid-19 severely.

They used a special X-ray microscopy technique to image changes caused by coronavirus in the structure of alveoli (air sacs in the lung) and the vasculature. The results were published in the research journal *eLife*.

In severe Covid cases, the researchers observed significant changes in the vasculature, inflammation, blood clots and 'hyaline membranes', which are composed of proteins and dead cells deposited on the alveolar walls, which make oxygen absorption difficult or impossible.

It is particularly well suited for tracing small blood vessels and their branches in three dimensions, localising cells of the immune systems which are recruited to the inflammation sites, and measuring the thickness of the alveolar walls. Due to the three-dimensional reconstruction, the data could also be used to simulate gas exchange.

With the new imaging approach, these changes can be visualised for the first time in larger tissue volumes, without cutting and staining or damaging the tissue as in conventional histology.

The authors foresee this new X-ray technique to be an extension of traditional histology and histopathology, areas of study which go back to the 19th century when optical microscopes had just become available and pathologists could unravel the microscopic origins of many diseases.

The Göttingen team could record lung tissue at scalable size and resolution, yielding both larger overviews and close-up reconstructions.

Sections through the three-dimensional reconstruction volume (upper left, grey) around a pulmonary alveolus with hyaline membrane (lower left, yellow). On the right, the images are superimposed. In the centre is the air bubble (alveolus). The electron density is represented by different shades of grey. Inside the air bubble is a layer of proteins and dead cell residues, the 'hyaline membrane'. This deposit reduces the gas exchange and leads to respiratory distress | TIM SALDITT, MARINA ECKERMANN/ UNIVERSITY OF GÖTTINGEN

TO HOLD PROTEST

BJP leader suspects veracity of wife's Covid report post death

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mangaluru

THE Udupi town police have registered an FIR over the suspicious death of a 26-year-old woman who died after she was reportedly administered an injection for headache at a private hospital.

The hospital had also issued a report showing that she was Covid-19 positive.

Shivaprasad, the woman's husband and vice-president of Udupi BJP Yuva Morcha, and his family suspect the authenticity of the Covid-19 report, stating that two separate tests done after her death gave contradictory results and alleged that it was an attempt to cover up the alleged negligence by the doctors.

In his complaint, he has alleged that his wife Sriraksha was taken to CSI Lombard Memorial (Mission) Hospital on Friday after she complained of recurring headaches. The doctors who attended to her, administered an injection.

After returning home, she reportedly fell unconscious and was rushed back to the hospital, where she was declared brought dead.

Shivaprasad told *The New Indian Express* that he wants to know the cause of his wife's death. He said they will hold a protest at Kaup on Monday, seeking a CBI probe into the incident. The couple have two kids — a three-year-old and a one-year-old.

Udupi Town police inspector Manjunath said they have lodged an FIR based on Shivaprasad's complaint and are investigating.

'Travel curbs to go, quarantine will remain'

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

THE rules on passes and other restrictions are set to go after Union Home Secretary Ajit Bhalla on Saturday urged the Chief Secretaries of all States to end all curbs. But there is no word on quarantine, Additional Chief Secretary Jawaid Akhtar told *TNIE*

As per the present rules, anyone coming from across the border will have to be mandatorily quarantined. Earlier, it was institutional quarantine but now it is home quarantine which is for 14 days.

Again those coming from outside have to register on the Seva Sindhu app, although it is not a restriction. Asked about it, Jawaid Akhtar said this app is technically not a pass or a permit but only a record to see who is registering. He said he would take a call on it in a day or two.

Union Home Secretary Bhalla had said that the local level restrictions imposed by different authorities were causing problems in the inter-state movement of goods and services. He pointed out that such restrictions were also impacting the supply chain, resulting in the disruption of economic activities and employment. He had stated that such restrictions at local level imposed by the district administration or by the state government would amount to violation of the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs under the provisions of the Disaster Management Act 2005. He said no restrictions may be imposed on inter-state and intra-state movement of persons and goods.

KSRTC has started its interstate and interdistrict service | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Under the new guidelines, no one needs separate permission or approval or any permit for movement of persons or goods for cross border trade.

STATE'S COVID CURVE IMPROVES, RECOVERY RATE REACHES 68%

Source: War Room

Cases see a dip at 5,000 plus positives

Bengaluru: Covid transmission in the state showed a slight dip on Sunday, registering 5,938 positives, as opposed to the usual trend of 7,000 to 8,000 daily cases. The state's tally now stands at 2,77,814. Bengaluru reported the major chunk of new cases with 2,126, followed by Ballari (406), Davanagere (265), Koppal (256) and Shivamogga (246). There were 68 fatalities, taking the toll to 4,683 cases. The number of critical cases saw a jump with 60 new patients admitted in ICU. With 4,996 patients walking out of hospitals on the day, the total recoveries is 1,89,564, with active cases at 83,551. **ENS**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA seems to have taken a better turn on the Covid front, despite recording 7,000-8,000 new cases daily over the past few days.

While the recovery rate has shot up to 68.23 per cent, the mortality rate has dipped to 1.68 per cent, according to the state war room. The recovery rate was a poor 35.29 per cent on July 20. From one of the worst recovery rates among the states almost two months ago, Karnataka has made a turnaround, almost equalling the national recovery rate of 68.45.

Moreover, Karnataka with a mortality rate of 1.68 per cent has bettered the national average of 2.02 per cent. Experts say a mortality rate of below 2 per cent is the norm to be maintained to keep deaths at the minimum. The state's mortality rate had gone up to 2.08 per cent in the third week of July, and hovered around that till the last week of July, after which it has been steadily dropping.

But the positivity rate has been increasing, from 3.32 per cent on July 5 to 11.50 per cent on Sunday evening. This compares poorly with the national average of about 7 per cent.

Dr Giridhar Babu, head of Lifecourse Epidemiology at the Public Health Foundation of India, and member of the Karnataka expert committee in the Covid task force, says, "Test positivity rate will increase as a function of increasing proportion of population getting infected and fewer tests done. To decrease test positivity, it is important to expand testing following a syndromic approach for case detection—identifying and treating a syndrome with minimal or no requirement for lab support."

The state has conducted 24,13,951 tests, of which 6,61,791 are rapid antigen tests and 17,52,160 RT-PCR tests.

The family of a Covid victim stages a protest along with locals after they were handed over the wrong body in Kundapur taluk on Sunday | EXPRESS

Chaos after body mix-up by hospital, DC seeks report

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mangaluru

CHAOS prevailed outside a cemetery in Kundapur taluk of Udupi district on Sunday after a Covid-designated hospital handed over the wrong body of a coronavirus victim to a family.

A 60-year-old man from Koteshwar was admitted to a hospital in Kundapur. After he tested positive, he was shifted to Udupi hospital where he died on Sunday morning. His family, along with the hospital staffers, brought the body to a cemetery in Kundapur for the final rites.

On the request of the family, the staffers allowed five of them to have a last glimpse of the body after wearing PPE kits as per protocol. The mix-up came to light when the family members found the body of a youth instead of the victim.

Following this, family members and locals staged a flash protest against the district administration and demanded that the Deputy Commissioner arrive at the spot. Kundapur Assistant Commissioner Raju and taluk health officer Nagabhushan arrived at the spot and pacified the protesters. The hospital handed over the correct body and the final rites was performed.

Meanwhile, Udupi DC K G Jagadeesha has sought a report on the incident.

IMA says will continue stir

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

MEDICAL Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar tweeted, "The state government was aware of the problems faced by Doctors during COVID-19 situation. As Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has assured to solve the issues faced by doctors, the state government medical Officer's Association has decided to withdraw strike. I thank them."

Health Minister B Sriramulu, too, tweeted that he had assured the protesting medical professionals about a fair inquiry into Dr Nagendra's suicide and also to look into their demands after discussing them with the chief minister.

KGMOA president Srinivas G said, "In all 30 districts, including Mysuru, we had called for a strike and had said that except emergency, no other services would be provided. The central committee decided today that with an intention not to create problems for the government and public during the pandemic, the strike would be withdrawn."

However, members of the Indian Medical Association, said they will continue the protest against high work pressure until justice is served. They also took out a candle-light vigil on Sunday evening. They said, "During our protest, we will continue to treat patients. Many doctors are working under a lot of pressure, and they too need a break. That is the reason, we will continue with our protest."

Doctors from Mysuru chapter of Indian Medical Association hold a candlelight vigil in memory of Dr Nagendra at DHO office in Mysuru on Sunday | UDAYSHANKAR S

Docs call off protest after transfer of ZP CEO

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

DOCTORS and other medical professionals from Mysuru, who were protesting for the last three days demanding the suspension of IAS officer Prashanth Kumar Mishra, called off the strike and decided to resume work from Monday.

They had boycotted all services, except the emergency, following the suicide of Dr Nagendra, the health officer of Nanjangud taluk, allegedly over harassment by Mysuru Zilla Panchayat CEO Prashanth Kumar Mishra.

Members of medical and government health officers associations had warned that they would intensify the protest if the government fails to suspend Mishra immediately. On Sunday, the government transferred Mishra and placed Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G Sankar as incharge until further orders.

"In the interest of the public, we are calling off the protest. We welcome the government's decision, but we demand a fair and unbiased inquiry into the issue and the report must be submitted within seven days, as Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa said," said Dr Devi Anand, district president of Karnataka Government Medical Officers Association.

He said the government should not appoint IAS or KAS officers as nodal officers for Covid management. "Instead, public health experts or anyone with experience in the medical field should be appointed," he added. The members also demanded an apology from Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar for his remarks against doctors.

Mysuru PDOs submit a memorandum to police over the harassment of a health officer of Nanjangud taluk | UDAYSHANKAR S

The shortage of oxygen support is the new issue haunting Covid-19 hospitals across the state. Medical Education Minister Sudhakar K has said the government will make arrangements to supply liquid oxygen.

Mandya pride Vivek Murthy bats for Joe Biden

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mysuru

WITH the United States Presidential Election campaign picking up pace, former US Surgeon General and a Mandya native Dr Vivek Murthy has supported the candidature of Joe Biden and slammed President Donald Trump, especially in handling the corona crisis.

A native of Halagere in Mandya district, Vivek who served as former Vice Admiral in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and the 19th Surgeon General of the United States, addressed the Democratic National Convention after several leaders like Barack Obama and Hilary Clinton spoke.

"Tonight as a father, son, grandson, a doctor and an American who loves his country, I can tell you that Joe Biden is the man I trust to look out for my family and the leader I know who will heal this nation," he said.

"I know it's not typical for a former Surgeon General to speak at a convention. Surgeon Generals are appointed by the President but our work isn't about politics. Our highest duty is to the public. Our true guide is science and our job is to speak the truth about public health even when it's controversial or perceived as political," he said.

Dr Vivek Murthy

Joe Biden

Highlighting the "poor" handling of the pandemic in the US, Murthy said: "So here's the truth — our nation absolutely has what it takes to overcome the pandemic that claimed thousands of our loved ones. We have the talent, resources and technology. What we are missing is leadership. We need a leader who works with states to ensure that everyone who needs a test gets one and get results quickly. A leader who secures a safe, effective vaccine and distributes it quickly and fairly."

He said he had worked with Joe Biden and had seen him sharing the pain of people.

As the convention started, Murthy's cousins and family members tuned into television in the wee hours to listen to his speech. Speaking to *TNIE*, H N Narashima Murthy, Vivek's father, said they are happy that Vivek has been invited to address the Democratic National Convention. Vasanth, cousin of Vivek, echoed him.

SCOPE Foundation

Vivek and his father H N Narasimha Murthy have set up the Society of Children of Planet Earth, SCOPE Foundation, to extend healthcare and give scholarships to toppers who are in need. The family has also come out with the Mother of Earth concept that will have statues of 32 great personalities that will reflect all faiths.

SANTINIKETAN IN OUR BACKYARD

Government schoolchildren gather outside a temple for their lessons, at Hanmanthegowda palya in Nelamangala while following social distancing norms (above); Teachers take classes under a banyan tree. Due to the lack of infrastructure, many government schools are unable to conduct online classes | SHRIRAM BN

Reach out to booth-level voters: Santhosh to cadre

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

BJP national general secretary **B L Santhosh**, who was visiting Bengaluru after nearly six months, met CM B S Yediyurappa over brunch on Sunday.

During the nearly hour-long meeting, they spoke of political developments in the State, the proposed cabinet expansion and challenges such as Covid and floods.

A few weeks ago, BJP national president JP Nadda had appreciated Yediyurappa for the handling of the pandemic. Santhosh, too, had words of appreciation for the government's response to Covid-19 and the floods.

Later, Santhosh held meetings with BJP general secretaries and Morcha presidents, the first after the new team was constituted. He met BJP State President Nalin Kumar Kateel and four general secretaries Ravi Kumar, Mahesh Thenginkai, former MLC Ashwathnarayana Gowda and Siddaraju, and heads of BJP Kisan Morcha, Mahila Morcha, Minority Morcha, SC-ST Morcha, OBC Morcha and Yuva Morcha, and said the party should act as a bridge between the government and people.

"Take the party's work and achievements to the grassroots, to voters at the booth level," Santhosh told party leaders during the series of meetings in the BJP office. He also met the media and social media teams, and gave them targets for the next six months.

He said the credibility of the average worker is higher than official news networks carrying the information to the people.

Santhosh also spoke to office-bearers about development and maintenance of BJP district offices and other party offices, and the money needed to maintain them. Arun Kumar, state organising general secretary, was present.

Base concrete work at Baiyappanahalli Third Coaching Terminal in Bengaluru has slowed down owing to limited workforce | EXPRESS

No workers, rly projects move at snail's pace

Covid surge deters labourers from returning

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

THE surge in the number of Covid-19 cases in Karnataka is keeping the labour workforce away from the State. A slew of railway projects that depend on workers from various parts of the country, are now progressing at a snail's pace.

Chief Administrative Officer, Constructions, South Western Railway (SWR), K C Swami, told TNIE, "Construction projects, particularly doubling works, are suffering ever since the national lockdown was announced in March. The work was also affected in April due to a halt on all construction activity. Later, many workers wanted to return to their hometowns. With the Covid restrictions relaxed and activities getting back to normal in many sectors in the last one month, we expected the workforce to return. However, they are reluctant to do so because of the surge in the number of cases in the State."

Contractors entrusted with various projects have repeatedly tried to bring back the workers but they are unwilling to return at this juncture, he added.

"Our workforce has now shrunk to an average of 1,500 from the 5000-odd figure that existed earlier. A few workers leave and return but the one-third average figure continues to hold good. For some specialised tasks like track laying, only skilled personnel who work in teams can do the job. They work in a synchronised fashion," he added.

The projects that have been impacted are: the Baiyappanahalli Coaching Terminal, the Hubballi Yard, and the doubling projects in Yelahanka-Makalidurga, Devarapalli-Hindupur-Penukonda, Hubballi-Chikkajajur, Hubballi-Nandayal, Tolahunse-Davanagere and Gadag-Hole Alur.

Hubby, son arrested for woman's murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

BANDEPALYA police have arrested the husband and son of a woman who was murdered on August 17 over a property dispute. Four contract (supari) killers were also nabbed.

Anjani (55), his son Varun (26), of Sarjapura; Naveen Kumar (34) of Anekal, Nagaraju (22), Pradeep (22) and Nagaraj alias Naga (21), all residents of Chandapura, were arrested within 24 hours of Geetha's murder.

Police said Anjani had separated from his wife, Geetha. While Geetha lived in Mangammanapalya, her husband and son Varun were living in Sarjapura. A dispute arose when Anjani sold their property at Mangammanapalya for Rs 2.74 crore last year, and got 50% in advance. But Geetha was not ready to vacate the house. So, the father-son duo allegedly started threatening her. She then filed a petition with the police stating that they should be held responsible if anything happens to her.

Varun contacted Naveen, his relative who is involved in 15 robberies, and visited Geetha's house 3-4 days before the murder. He decided against killing her then, as she would not have opened the door.

"So he asked the killers to do it at night. The four supari killers entered her house at night from the skylight and killed her," police said.

Miscreants shoot cat in Sarjapura

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

MISCREANTS shot and killed a cat inside a villa in Sarjapura on Saturday night. The cat was adopted by the villa's owner Abraham, a software engineer for a private company.

A senior police officer said that around 11pm, when the cat was moving around outside the villa, miscreants opened fire at it with a country-made pistol, killing it. Police said that Abraham's neighbour had a fight with him over the cat after it entered his house a couple of times. He had told Abraham to cage it. Meanwhile, police also say that two people who came to hunt rabbits may have mistaken the cat for one and killed it. Police are probing the case from all angles.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-Tender Notice

Tender No: 3,4,5,6.7/2020-21/SE/PHC/MVPA. JJM-Erattayar, Velliyamattom, Manakkad, Purappuzha and Edavetty Panchayaths - Providing functional household tap connection to households in Erattayar Velliyamattom, Manakkad, Purappuzha and Edavetty Panchayaths. EMD : Rs. 100000 for each Tender. Tender fee : Rs. 8400, 8400, 8400, 5600, 8400. Last Date for submitting Tender : 15-09-2020 04:00:pm. Phone: 0485 2835637. Website: **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.**

KWA-JB-GL-6-162-2020-21

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle, Muvattupuzha

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
PATNA - 801507
(An Autonomous body under MoHFW, Govt. of India)

SPOT COUNSELLING
ADMISSION TO POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC COURSES (MD/MS) AT AIIMS PATNA (JULY 2020 SESSION)

Admission to Post-Graduate (MD/MS) Academic Courses (July 2020 session) at AIIMS Patna based on AIIMS Postgraduate Entrance Examination (July 2020 Session) conducted by AIIMS New Delhi on **11 June 2020** shall be filled based on merit list.

The eligible and desirous candidates for participating in the Spot Counselling may register online by **27 August 2020 10:00 PM.** The details as well as registration link related to seats is available on the website **www.aiimspatna.org** of AIIMS Patna.

For essential verification of the original documents and SPOT COUNSELLING, the desirous candidates are advised to be present by **10:00 AM on 28 August 2020.**

The change in the number of seats is possible till the date of spot counselling. The desirous candidates are requested to visit the above-mentioned website of AIIMS Patna for detailed advertisement.

Dean, AIIMS, Patna

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಅಭಿಯಾನ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸೊಸೈಟಿ (ರಿ.)
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಘಟಕ, ಪಿಡಬ್ಲ್ಯುಡಿ ಬಿಲ್ಡಿಂಗ್, ನೆಹರೂ ಮೈದಾನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ದ.ಕ., ಮಂಗಳೂರು
ಇಮೇಲ್: dpmodkannada@gmail.com ಫೋನ್ ನಂಬ್ರ: 0824-2424501

ಡಿಪಿಎಂಯು/ದಕ/ಎನ್‌ಹೆಚ್‌ಎಂ/135/2019-20 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22/08/2020

ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕೋವಿಡ್-19 ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ವೆನ್ಲಾಕ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಒ.ಬಿ.ಜಿ. ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಕೇರ್ ವಾರ್ಡ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು 6 ತಿಂಗಳ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಎನ್.ಹೆಚ್.ಎಂ. ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಪ್ರಸೂತಿ ತಜ್ಞರ ಸೇವೆಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತ ಒ.ಬಿ.ಜಿ. ತಜ್ಞ ವೈದ್ಯರು www.dkhfw.inನಿಂದ ಆಥವಾ ಈ ಕಚೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿ ನಮೂನೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ.ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ 26/08/2020ರ ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ನಡೆಯುವ ನೇರ ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಮೂಲ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲು ಕೋರಿದೆ. ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯನ್ನು / ಒಪ್ಪಂದ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಎನ್.ಹೆಚ್.ಎಂ. ನಿಯಮಾನುಸಾರ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಅರ್ಹತೆ	ಮಾಸಿಕ ಸಂಚಿತ ವೇತನ
1	ಪ್ರಸೂತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ತ್ರೀರೋಗ ತಜ್ಞರು	ನೇರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಹುದ್ದೆ-2	DGO/DNB/MD(OBG) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಇಲ್ಲಿನೊಂದಾವಣೆ ಆಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಗರಿಷ್ಠ 50 ವರ್ಷ ವಯೋಮಿತಿ	Fixed salary of Rs.90,000/- and upto Rs.20,000/- Performance based Incentives.
2	ಪ್ರಸೂತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ತ್ರೀರೋಗ ತಜ್ಞರು	On Call Basis-2		Retainer Fee-Rs.10000/-Per Month and Case Basis Payment.

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ಸಹಿ/- ಸದಸ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ. ಸೊಸೈಟಿ
ದ.ಕ. ಮಂಗಳೂರು

Industrial Training Institute

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT
Office of the Commissioner, Kaushalwaya Bhavana, Near Dairy Circle
Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 029. Ph: 080-25189105
E-mail : karcet.iti.admissions@gmail.com | Website : www.emptrg.kar.nic.in

Notification for On-Line Admissions in Govt. and Grant-in-Aid ITIs for Aug-2020 Session

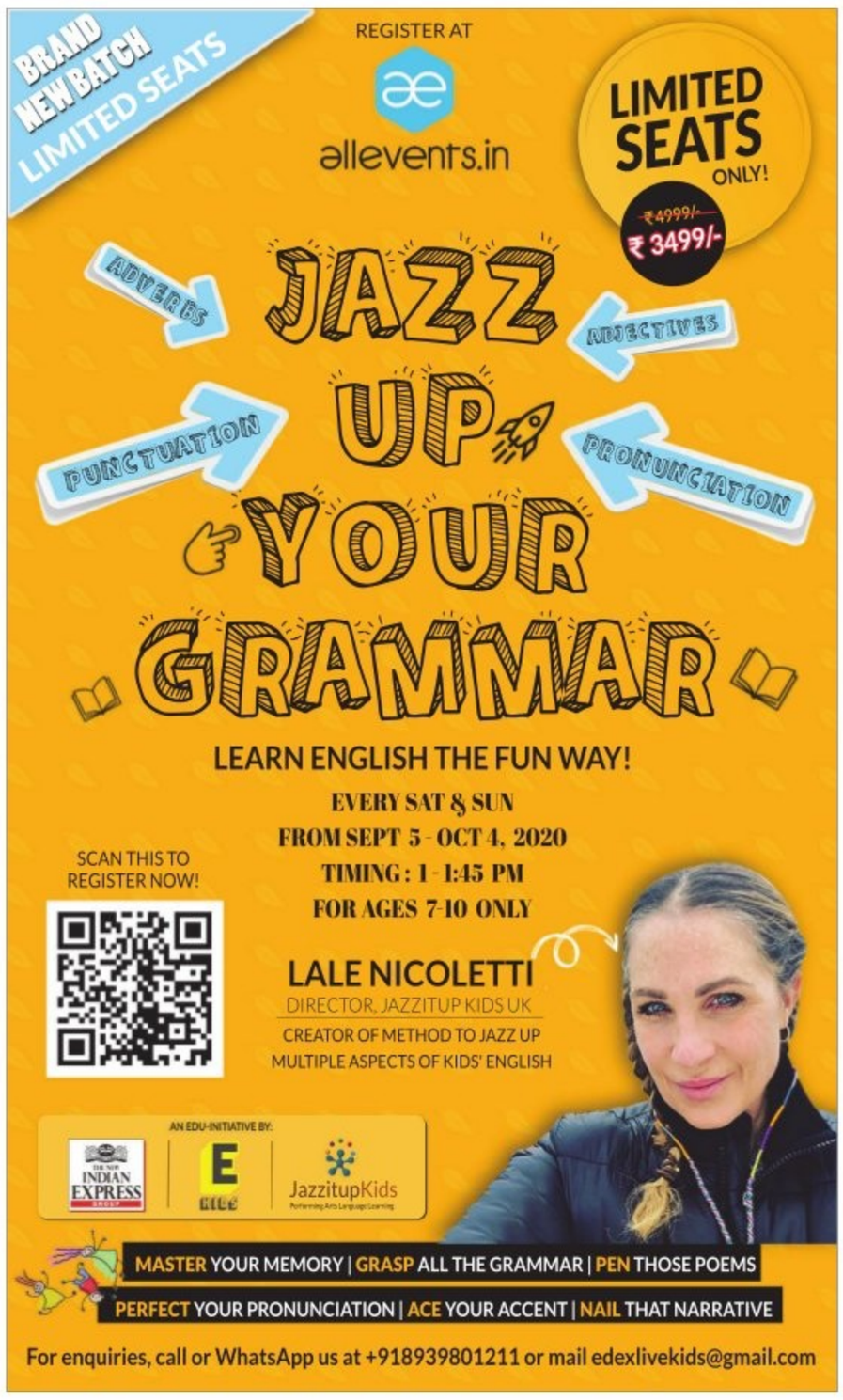
- Applications are invited Online from eligible candidates for Aug-2020 session in 270 Govt. & 196 GIA ITIs For NCVT Affiliated Trades based on Merit cum Reservation as Mentioned in the Web-Site **www.emptrg.kar.nic.in**
- Candidates can directly fill the Applications On-line through the Department Web-Site **www.emptrg.kar.nic.in** it can also be done from the nearest Govt./GIA ITIs or Public Cyber Centers.
- Training will be given in 40 different Affiliated Trades under NCVT.
- Candidates should have obtained 10th Standard Certificate from Recognised Examination Board that is from S.S.L.C. Board or Council of Boards of School Education, New Delhi (COBSE).
- Applications can be submitted through On-line from **17-08-2020 to 31-08-2020.**
- **This Advertisement is given only to conduct Training in 270 Govt. & 196 GIA ITIs.**
- **Specialised Courses like Solar Technology, Bakery & Confectionery, Basic Cosmetology & Food Production (General) have been introduced under PPP Scheme in Govt. ITIs.**

Note: Candidates are hereby informed to take admissions only after confirmation that both ITIs & Trades are Affiliated by DGT, New Delhi.

For More information, please contact nearest Govt ITIs. /Dept. Website.

Sd/-
Commissioner
Industrial Training & Employment

DIPR/DDU/SSC/801/2020-21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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **Smt. G.SUJATHA** W/o. **V.A.Girisha** has agreed to purchase the below mentioned schedule property from **SRI. SYED PASHA MOHIDEEN, S/o. Late. Syed Mahammad @ Syed Ahmed, Aged about 73 years, Residing at No.240, 2nd Cross, Konanakunte Cross, Mango Garden Layout, Bangalore-560062.** who claims to be the absolute owner having a marketable and subsisting title. If any person/s having any claim, right, title or interest whatsoever over the schedule property and objections for the sale, if any, the same may be forwarded to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title or interest by anybody whomsoever and there are **"NO OBJECTIONS"** for completion of the sale transaction and my clients will proceed with the execution and registration of the absolute sale deed.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel **of Agricultural land bearing survey No.186, measuring 2 Acres 30 Guntas situated at ChikkaMaralawadi village, Maralawadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District**. together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:

East by : Doddaiah's Property. West by : Thibbe Gowda, Linge Gowda and Raju's property.
North by : Doddaiah's Property Now sold.
South by : Rukmini's Property.

M.Sudhakar, Advocate,
No.37, 1st Floor, Opp.Kamala Nehru Vidhaya Mandir South end Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore-560 004. Mobile No. 9886063456

Place : Bangalore, Date : 23.08.2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

Under the instructions from my clients Sri Kiran Kumar S/o G N Ramegowda, and Smt. Umadevi W/o G N Ramegowda, Resident of No.17, Jagadanilaya, 13th Cross, 2nd Block, Akshayanagar, Ramamurthynagar, Bangalore - 560016. It is hereby inform to the general public that my client have entered into Agreement of sale on 23/7/2020 from Mr. K. SARATH BABU S/o Sri. Thyaragajulu Naidu, Aged about 30 years, R/at No.32, Second Floor, 2nd Cross Street, Gummaiah Layout, Chikkallasandra Main Road, Bangalore 560 061 to purchase the same as he is the absolute owner. In respect of the House property bearing J P Nagar, 8th Phase, 1st Block, Kothanur Village Layout, Bangalore Site No.1106, measuring East to West 7.60 Metres and North to South 9.45 Metres in all 71.82 Square Metres. WHEREAS, the schedule property is the self-acquired property of the vendor herein who had acquired by the same by way of EAuction Conducted and for the same the said Bangalore Development Authority Represented by Deputy Secretary on dated 06.07.2017 executed a registered Auction Sale deed in favor of SARATH BABU K. vide Document No.BDA-1-01621-2017-18, Stored in CD No.BDAD225,IN BOOK-1 Dated 07-07-2017 in the office of Addl Subregistrar, BDA, Bangalore. It is hereby notified to the general public that if anybody having any manner of claim, charge, over the below mentioned schedule property, except the property Mortgaged in favour of Vijaya Bank now Bank of Baroda they may file their objections to the under signed or to the above mentioned addresses within 14 days from this day and any objections received thereafter shall not be taken in to consideration and my client will proceed further, as if there are no other claims or objections.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property Situated at J P Nagar, 8th Phase, 1st Block, Kothanur Village Layout, Bangalore Site No.1106, measuring East to West 7.60 Metres and North to South 9.45 Metres in all 71.82 Square Metres, which is more and bounded on East by : Site No.1107, West by : Road, North by : Road, South by: Site No.1151.

B. HONNALINGE GOWDA, Advocate
No.30, Kanaka Mandira, 5th Cross, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009.
Phone No. 9980516004

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client, Mr. Srinivas B.R., S/o. G.A. Ramakrishna, R/at No. 30/38-2, 5th Main, 7th Cross, Devanathachar Street, Dasappa Garden, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru - 560 018, has intended to purchase the property morefully described in the Schedule herein below for valuable consideration from Ms. Shantha Bai W/o. Late Srinivasa Rao, R/at No. MF 5/4, 3rd Cross, Near Nandini Layout Police Station, Nandini Layout, Bengaluru - 560 096, who has represented that she is the absolute owner and are in peaceful possession of the schedule property. Any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right in the schedule property may lodge their objections and / or claims with the undersigned along with the supporting documentary evidences with in 10 (Ten) days from the date of this publication and any objections or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my client and my client will proceed to purchase the schedule property as if there are no claimant/s or objections from any person/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential property bearing No. 222, Assessment No. 56/4, Form 'B' Katha SL No. 4458, in BBMP New PID No. 040-W, 1421-29, situated at Andrahalli Village, Yeswanthpura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Now with in the Jurisdiction of BBMP, Ward No. 40, measuring East to West 30 feet, North to South 40 feet, in all total measuring 1200 square feet along with one square of ACC sheet roofed House, with civic amenities and bounded on :

East by: Private Property, West by: Private Property, North by: Private Property, South by: Road.

SRINIVASA M., Advocate
109, 1st Floor, SSI Area, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560 010.
Mobile: 98450 80785

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PH: 080- 27821222 M-9449860036 e-mail : cb10429@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES THROUGH E- AUCTION (ON LINE AUCTION) UNDER RULES 8(6) & 9 OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

Notice is hereby given to the effect that the immovable property described herein, taken possession under the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, will be sold by inviting tenders on the following terms & conditions.

1.	Names and Address of the secured creditor	**Canara Bank, E Syndicate Bank Attibele 2 Branch 10429, 728A Sree Laxmi Complex, Sarjapura Road Bangalore–562107 080-27821222 -9449860036 email:cb10429@canarabank.com**
2	Names and Address of the Borrower	**1.Mr Jibi Rathnakar** # 62 Chikkatur Village Kudumangalore, Kushal Nagar Karnataka 571232 **2. Subitha B T** W/o Jibi Rathnakar # 62 Chikkatur Village Kudumangalore, Kushal Nagar Karnataka 571232
3.	Total liabilities as on 30/11/2019	**Rs.1,15,94,535.64** (Rupees One Crores Fifteen Lacs Ninty four Thousand Five Hundred Thirty five and paise sixty four Only) along with costs, expenses and future interest there on.
4.	Last Date & Time of receipt of online tender and Submission of EMD	**23.09.2020 up to 4.00 P M**
5.	Address in which the online tender to be submitted	The Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, E Syndicate Bank Attibele 2 Branch 10429, 728A Sree Laxmi Complex,Sarjapura Road Bangalore–562107
6.	Date and time of e-auction (with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration on each bid)	**25.09.2020 11.00 AM to 12.00 PM**
6a	Portal for E-auction	**https://indianbankseauction.com**

6b: Details of property: Description of the Immovable property Residential flat # A2 401 in ARIES LAKEVIEW Apartment with super built up area of 2250 sq feet, UDS 0.69 % extent to 933.4 Sq Feet with 2 car parking spaces in slit floor . Property bearing BBMP khatha No 460, SY no 66/2 and 66/7 Jakkur Village Yellanka Hobli, Bangalore north East by: boundary acquired by BDA West by: boundary of Ramakka W/o Sabbaiah and K V Srikanatha North by: Road South by: Road

RS.1,07,00,000/-(Rupees One Crores & seven lacs only) EMD – RS.10,70,000/-(Rupees Ten lacs seventy thousand only)

7. Other terms and conditions:

The auction sale will be online e-auction-through the website **https://indianbankseauction.com**

a) The properties will be sold in "As is where is & as is what is" condition including encumbrances, if any.
b) The property can be inspected on **19/09/2020 between 2.00 PM to 4.00 PM** with prior appointment.
c) The properties will not be sold below the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process. Auction would commence at Reserve Price, but bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of **Rs.10,000/-** (Rupees Ten Thousand only).
d) Intending bidders shall hold a valid digital signature certificate and e-mail address. For details with regard to digital signature please contact **M/S CANBANK COMPUTER SERVICES LIMITED, Bangalore (Contact no 9480691777/8553643144, e-mail: eauction@ccsl.co.in**
e) Bidders are advised to go through the website **https://indianbankseauction.com** for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in e-auction proceedings.
f) Prospective bidders if required may avail online training on e-auction from **M/S CANBANK COMPUTER SERVICES LIMITED.**
g) EMD shall be deposited by way of DD favouring **Authorised officer, Canara Bank, Attibele 2 Branch OR through online (RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer) to credit the account number 04293170000018, Canara Bank, Attibele 2 Branch, Bangalore RTGS/NEFT CODE IFSC:SYNB0000429** (in the address mentioned in clause No.1 above) before submitting the bids online.
h) Bids shall be submitted through online with relevant details.
I) A copy of the bid form along with the enclosure submitted on line shall be forwarded to the Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, Attibele 2 Branch, Bangalore (in the address mentioned in clause No.1 above) immediately.
j) Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor.
k) The successful bidder/s shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price within the period stated above, the deposit made by parties shall be forfeited.
l) All charges for conveyance, stamp duty and registration charges and TDS amount as per the provisions of the Income Tax Act etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder/s only.
m) It is not within the knowledge of the bank about any taxes, revenue/dues to any local authority and any/all such taxes, revenue/dues to any local/statutory authority, if any, as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder/s only.
n) Authorised officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the tender without assigning any reason thereof.
o) The intending bidder/s shall also attach a copy of the PAN Card issued by the income Tax department and his/her identity proof and the proof of residence such as copy of the Passport, Driving license, etc.

Contact person: Canara Bank, Attibele 2 Branch, Contact Person : T L V Subba Rao 080-27821222 — 9449860036 email:cb10429@canarabank.com.

M/S CANBANK COMPUTER SERVICES LTD Contact Person Mr. Pakhare D D / Mr. Ramesh T H Mobile: 9480691777 / 8553643144 Email: eauction@ccsl.co.in Website: https://indianbankseauction.com

Date: 21.08.2020
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised officer
Canara Bank

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited

H.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 560 018.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Sri R.Ramesh Kumar, S/o Late Ramdas, R/a 16, "Surya Nilayam", Ramesh Kumar Road, Oil Mill Road, Aravindnagar, Kammanahalli, Bengaluru-560033, The debt due to Bank as on **20.08.2020** of **Rs.33,67,069/-** + Interest & miscellaneous expenses. Auction sale under the securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforce of Security Interest Act 2002 Section 13(4) of the Immovable properties mortgaged to The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is brought to Sale under **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION"on 25.09.2020, Friday at 11.00 am.**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property nos.41 & 41/A, (in erstwhile Khatha No.19, Byataguttepalya, Kasaba Hobli,Bangalore North Taluk), Old No.622, present BBMP Khatha No.41/41/A/19/622, Byataguttepalya (Ramaswamypalya) Kammanahalli Main Road, Bangalore, Measuring East to West:30 feet, North to South 29'3" feet, and another adjoining to same property on the Eastern side measuring East to West:5'3" and North to South: 34'9" in measuring all 1059.93 sq.ft. and property is bounded on the East by: Private Property , West by: Property Belonging to G.Natarajan, North by: Property belonging to William South by: 15'Road and property belonging to B.Purandar Singh and B.Surandar property.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) The public auction will be conducted in the premises of the Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Head Office No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560 018.
(2) For participation in the auction the intending bidders have to deposit an amount of Rs.7,16,700/- equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price of the property Rs.71,66,997/- being cautioned deposit. The cautioned deposit shall be forfeited by the bank without any prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms of sale, time and commits default in any manner.
(3) The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount on the same day at the time of sale in cash/DD to the GMCB Ltd. and the balance within 15 days from the date of sale.
(4) The successful bidders shall bear all expenses like stamp duty, Registration fee etc., for getting the sale certificate Registered in his/her favour.
(5) The authorized officer shall have powers to accept or reject bids or postpone/cancel the auction without assigning any reasons thereof.
(6) For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending bidder may contact the undersigned at the GMCB Ltd., or through Telephone, they are at liberty to make their own assessment/enquiry about the property. Balance of tax and others charges has to be bourned by purchaser.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 20.08.2020

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co Operative Bank Ltd.,
26677552, 26506279

RAIL COACH FACTORY KAPURTHALA

On-line tenders are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items: -

Sr. No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	Qty.	EMD (₹)
1.	17201300 17.09.2020	Set of roof panels & corner panels for LHB SLR wirh Divyangjan Passenger Compartment Coaches	101 Set	263570/-
2.	17201350 18.09.2020	Entrance Hand Rail Complete	6903 Set	72480/-
3.	17201366 21.09.2020	Hand Rail Assembly	2003 Nos.	69590/-
4.	17201399 21.09.2020	Set of Pillar Assembly for Hot Buffet LHB Coach Set of Pillar Assembly for AC 2 Tier (LHB) type Coach	29 Set 45 Set	NIL
5.	17201422 21.09.2020	Marking Diagrm for LHB Garib Rath AC-3 Tier Coaches	273 Nos.	50900/-
6.	14201126 22.09.2020	(1) Fleet Graphic Film for Exterior of LHB Chair Car Coaches to pl No. 33660827 (2) Fleet Graphic Film for Exterior of Antodaya Coaches to pl No. 33660712 (3) Fleet Graphic Film for Exterior of lhb Coaches to pl No. 33660724 (4) Fleet Graphic Film for Exterior of LHB Garib Rath Coaches to pl No. 33660931	(1) 39 Nos. (2) 55 Nos. (3) 1014 Nos. (4) 273 Nos.	2000000/-
7.	17201402 22.09.2020	Luggage Rack Mounting for SLR LHB Coach	111 Set	201150/-
8.	02201142A 14.09.2020	Eight Typpes of Harness for LHB Coaches + 59 Sets + 35 Sets + 385 Sets + 18 Sets + 80 Sets + 137 Sets	173 Sets + 285 Sets	5000000/-
9.	05201285 15.09.2020	Front Sheet, Front Sheet	231 Nos., 1020 Nos.	258750/-
10.	05201269 18.09.2020	Front Part	658 Set	2000000/-
11.	07201213 14.09.2020	Composite Pipe PL No. 62130079, 62130080	20615 Mtr. 4655 Mtr.	NIL
12.	02201178 18.09.2020	Battery Fuse Box-VE/+VE (2 Items)	4039 Nos.	635100/-

1. For details and making On-line tenders, visit webiste: **http://ireps.gov.in** Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF website: **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in**. Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line biddings, can be obtained from licensed certifying agensices listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in** **2.**Tenders will close at 14.25 hrs. on due date and will be opened at 14.30 hrs. Tenders Sr. No. 1 to 7 will be opened at RCF, Kapurthala and Sr. No. 8 to 12 will be opened at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi. **3.** For queries, contact IREPS helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23370897.

NOTE: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them. *All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderes are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website: **http://www.ireps.gov.in**. For more details regarding the above mentoned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS webiste.

PCMM

CORRIGENDUM : (1) The following amedment is authorized against Tender No. 17201226 for the supply of **Set of FRP Side wall Panels for LHB Coaches** due date may be read as 31.08.2020 instead of 19.08.2020. **(2)** This office Tender No. **02201142** due on **28.08.2020** for Eight type of harness is treated as DROPPED.

PCMM

No. G-122-01/PCMM/055/2020-21 Dated 22/08/2020

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Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited

Registered Office: 27BKC, C-27, G-Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400051
Branch Office: No.22, ING Vysya House, M.G. Road Bangalore – 560 001 Karnataka

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.,** under the securitization and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interest act,2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the security interest (enforcement) rules 2002 issued demand notices to the Borrower/s as detailed hereunder, calling upon the respective borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the said notices with all costs, charges and expenses till actual date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of the same. The said Borrower(s)/ Co Borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Co borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described hereunder in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said act r/w rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned along-with. The Borrowers in particular and public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., for the amount specified therein with future interest, costs and charges from the respective dates. The Borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Details of the Borrowers, scheduled property, outstanding dues, demand notices sent under section 13(2) and amounts claimed there under, date of possession is given herein below:

Sr. No	Name And Address Of The Borrower, Co-Borrower Loan Account No., Loan Amount	Details Of The Immoveable Property	1. Date Of Possession 2. Demand Notice Date 3. Amount Due In Rs.
1	**Mr. Sunil Kumar K S/O Late K.M. Krishnappa & Mrs. Subhadra W/O Late K.M. Krishnappa Both At :** R/o 1543, Third Cross, Opp. Ayyappa Temple, Dooravaninagar, Vijinapura, Bangalore-560016 **Loan Account No.:** PR00405860 **Loan Sanctioned Amount :** Rs.22,39,000/- (Rupees twenty two lakh thirty nine thousand only)	All that piece and parcel of property bearing the V.P. khatha no 257/2 situated at Vijinapura, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East taluk, comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangaloreand bounded on: East by: house belongs to Smt. Devamma, West by: private property,North by: 20 feet road, South by: house belongs to Smt. Rajamma and Sri. Ramaiah measuring, East to west 27.9 feet and north to south 40 feet, In all measuring 1116 square feet consist of 10 sq RCC roofed house. **Name of the mortgagor:** Mr. Sunil Kumar K.	1. 18.08.2020 2. 13.02.2020 3. Rs. 29,74,204.91/- (Rupees twenty nine lakh seventy four thousand two hundred four and ninety one paisa only) due and payable as of 13.02.2020 with applicable interest from 14.02.2020 until payment in full.
2	**Mr. Vadiyappan Swaminathachari S/O. Swamynatha Achary & Mrs. S Jayanthi Both At :** No.303,8th Class Sanjay Nagar, MarathahalliBangalore – 560037. **Loan Account Number :** PR00359272 **Total Loan Amount Sanctioned :** Rs.15,22,000/- (Rupees fifteen lakh twenty two thousand only)	All that piece and parcel of the land and building in Site No.294, old khatha No.31, then changed as Khatha No. 36/294, situated in Sanjayanagara, Marathahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, earlier Bangalore South Taluk, now within Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Limits, Bangalore, site measuring East to West: 20 feet North to South: 30 feet along with 400 square feet RCC roofed house in Ground Floor, 400 square feet RCC roofed house in first floor, 400 square feet RCC roofed house in second floor, 400 square feet RCC roofed house in third floor and 200 square feet RCC roofed house in Fourth floor with all civic amenities and bounded on:-East by: Road West by: Property of Sri. M.Krishnappa, North by: Property of Sri. Gangachari, South by : Property of Sri. Venkataswamy, **Name Of The Mortgager:** Mr. Vadiyappan Swaminathachari.	1. 18.08.2020 2. 13.02.2020 3. Rs.20,34,102.35/-(Rupees twenty lakh thirty four thousand one hundred two and thirty five paisa only) due and payable As Of 13.02.2020 With applicable interest from 14.02.2020 until payment In full.
3	**Mr. J Naveen Kumar S/O Jaganathan. &Mrs. J Navamani W/O Jaganathan Both At :** No. 272, 2nd Main, Ajjamallappa Layout, New Durga Devi Temple, Kacharakanahalli, Bangalore-560084,. **Mrs. J Navamani W/O Jaganathan Also At:** No 23,2nd Main Road, Ajjamallappa Layout Kacharakanahalli, Bangalore-560084. **Loan Account No.** PR00390427 **Loan Sanctioned Amount :** Rs. 20,36,000/- (Rupees twenty lakh thirty six thousand only)	All the piece and parcel of property bearing No 272, Sy. No. 66/1,Khatha No 66/1,situated at Kacharakanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently comes under the limits of BBMP, Bangalore and bounded on: East by :Property belongs to Mr. J. Navamani, West by : Road, North by: Property belongs to Mr. Krishnoji Rao,South by: Property belongs to Mr. N. Krishna Murthy,Measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 20 feet. **Name of the Mortgagor:** Mrs. J Navamani.	1. 18.08.2020 2. 13.02.2020 3. Rs. 26,68,071.23/-(Rupees twenty six lakhs sixty eight thousand seventy one and twenty three paisa only) due and payable as of 13.02.2020 with applicable interest from 14.02.2020 until payment in full.
4	**Mr. Manjunath S/O Late Gopalappa & Mrs. Manjula @ Manjula G W/O Mr. Manjunath Both At :** No. 4/5, ITC Road, 3rd Cross Muniswamappa Layout, Ramaswamy Palyakammanahalli, Bangalore – 560033. **Loan Account No.** PR00398827 **Loan Sanctioned Amount :** Rs.15,27,000/- (Rupees fifteen lakh twenty seven thousand only)	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No 1, Survey No 4/2, comprising of the properties mentioned herein below admeasuring 716.80 Square feet, situated at 3rd cross, Ramaswamy palya, ITC Road, Kacharakanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli,Bangalore North Taluk, comprising of a building measuring 600 square feet built up area, and bounded on Item No 1: Measuring East to west 28 feet and North to South (14+12.9)/2 Item No 2: Measuring East to West (35+33.4)/2 feet and North to South (7+12.9)/2 Item No 1 and 2 commonly bounded on East by : Private property,West by : Property of Mrs. S Manjula and 3 feet passage,North by: Government Property,South by: 10 feet Passage. **Name Of The Mortgagor :** Mrs. Manjula .	1. 18.08.2020 2. 23.01.2020 3. Rs. 21,28,454.16/-(Rupees twenty one lakh twenty eight thousand four hundred fifty four and sixteen paisa only) due and payable as of 23.01.2020 with applicable interest from 24.01.2020 until payment in full.
5	**Mr. Chandra Shekhar Reddy & Mrs. G. Lakshmi Reddy W/ O Mr. Chandra Shekhar Reddy Both At :** R/O No. 6, Site No. 13/2, 2nd Floor,Village Khatta, Bharathi Nagar, Hunasamaranahalli, Bangalore-562157,. **Also At :** No 38 1st Main Road, Katigenahalli (Ambedkar Nagar) Bagalur Main Road, IAF Post, Yelahank, Bangalore 560063. **Loan Account No:** PR00383983 **Loan Sanctioned Amount :** Rs.25,45,000/- (Rupees twenty five lakh forty five thousand only)	All The Piece And Parcel Of The Immovable Property Bearing No 13/2, Four Floor Constructed Bulding, Heaving Area Admeasuring 2000 Sq Ft.,Including All Rights, Privelages And Appurtenance There To And Measuring East to West 40 Feet, North to South 50 Feet, Total Area 2000 Sq. Feet, Registered as Village Khatha No 658/606/13/2, Situated At Hunasamaranahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluq,. Bounded As Follows : East By: Property Belongs to Tulasi, West By: 20 Feet Road, North By: 5 Feet Road, South By: Property Belongs to K C Muninarauana. **Name Of The Mortgagor:** Mrs. G Lakshmi.	1. 18.08.2020 2. 11.12.2019 3. Rs. 30,32,224.12/-(Rupees thirty lakh thirty two thousand two hundred twenty four and twelve paisa only),) due and payable as of 11.12.2019 with applicable interest from 12.12.2019 until payment in full.

Date:18.08.2020
Place: Bangalore

For Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited
Authorized Officer

For Any Query Please Contact Mr.Vijay Kumar Menon (+91 9940572248) & MR. Ramamohan PB (+91 8886811053)&Mr. Murali M.R (9900448628)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients **Mr. Mohammed Rafiq .G H,** S/o. Gulam Husain, **2. Mrs. Farida Khan,** w/o.Asifulla Khan.R, intend to purchase the immovable property described in the schedule hereunder from its owner, **Mr. Aravind Sarpangala.** Any person/s having any claim, title and interest over the schedule property or any objections to the proposed purchase, may file their objections in writing along with copies of supporting documents to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this publication and a copy of objections to the Purchasers' advocate, below mentioned, failing which my client will be advised to go ahead and complete the formalities for registered Sale Deed.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential building with land bearing **Site No.163, Katha No.557/1, converted Sy.No.6/1, situated at K.Narayanapura Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 51 feet and North to South 30 Feet, in all measuring 1530 sq.ft,** with the building thereon comprising of Ground and First floor measuring 1000 Sq.ft, and bounded on the:

East By : 30 Feet Road;
West By : Site No.158;
North By : Site No.162;
South By : Site No.164.

SAHAI KUMAR, Advocate
#311, 2nd Floor, 3rd Main, 3rd Phase, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore-560078 Mob : 9845090974

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Mr. T.C. ShivaKumar** S/o. T.G. Chandra Shekar, Aged about 49 years, residing at No. 561, 17th Cross, 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560 038, have changed my daughter's name from **RACHANA S.** to **RACHANA .S. ARADHYA.** Vide affidavit dated 20-08-2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary C.V. Erappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Pranav Anil S/o. P.S. Anil Kumar, aged about 18 years, R/at No. 513, 9th Cross, 2nd Main, MICO Layout, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560076 have changed my name to

PRANAV ANIL NAIR

vide AFFIDAVIT No. IN-KA04375842144470S, dated 20/08/2020 sworn before notary H.H. Nagaraj, Bangalore

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Locals caught and handed over to police a man, who allegedly attempted to rape a US citizen, in Tiruvannamalai on Sunday. According to police, the 31-year-old woman was in the country on a tourist visa

Krishna in spate, AP faces nature's wrath

Hundreds of houses inundated in Vijayawada and Guntur districts, people shifted to relief centres

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Vijayawada/Guntur

HEAVY inflows into the river Krishna from upstream displaced several families in Vijayawada and parts of Guntur district on Sunday. Hundreds of houses got inundated in both districts, and the Krishna district administration shifted around 250 people living in low-lying areas downstream of Prakasam Barrage in Vijayawada following the release of surplus water into the sea. They were taken to a relief centre set up by the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) at the Indira Gandhi Municipal Corporation (IGMC) Stadium.

In neighbouring Guntur district, 49 families from Ramapuram village in Dachepalli mandal were shifted to relief centres set up in government schools. Their houses were inundated by the backwaters of the Pulichintala project. Another 20 families of Regulagadda and Vellampalli villages were shifted to a rehabilitation centre where the government constructed houses under the Pulichintala project.

In Vijayawada, though several houses were inundated, only a few families agreed to move to rehabilitation centres fearing the spread of coronavirus.

Residents of Krishna Lanka expressed their anger over the temporary measures taken up by the government instead of permanent measures to prevent inundation of their residences. Sankavarapu Srinivasa Rao, a resident of Krishna Lanka, said the only time officials visit is during the floods to shift them to relief centres, but they don't take any concrete steps to address the long-pending demand for a retaining wall to be constructed. "We are also worried about the things we have at home, which we might lose if we are not there," he said, adding that residents of the area are even willing to stay in the open at places at a higher altitude to keep a watch over their inundated houses.

The Krishna district administration shifted around 250 people residing in low-lying areas downstream of Prakasam Barrage in Vijayawada following the release of surplus water into the sea | PRASANT MADUGULA

Krishna district Collector A Md Imtiaz visited the flood-affected areas, interacted with the people who were unwilling to move out, and urged them to cooperate with the authorities. He told them arrangements at relief centres are in accordance with the Covid-19 guidelines, and added that the water level would rise over the next few days.

With all major projects in the Krishna basin - Srisailam, Nagarjuna Sagar and Pulichintala - almost reaching their full reservoir level (FRL), the flood discharge to Prakasam Barrage in the lower basin increased to over 4.1 lakh cusecs on Sunday. According to the Central Water Commission (CWC), inflows to the reservoirs are likely to continue at a steady pace.

In the Krishna basin, the inflow to the Srisailam reservoir remained steady, with an inflow of over 3.25 lakh cusecs and an outflow of 3.76 lakh cusecs at 7 pm. The water level in the reservoir is 883.56 ft, as against its FRL of 885 ft. Officials were maintaining a flood cushion of 8 TMCft as of Sunday evening, and the reservoir, which has a storage capacity of 215.81 TMCft at FRL, has 207 TMCft of water.

However, the CWC's forecast indicated that the inflows would reduce. The floodwater, through Pothireddypadu head regulator, was also being diverted to Somasila and Kandaleru (Pennar basin), which were receiving 19,100 cusecs and 1,300 cusecs respectively as of Sunday morning.

The inflow to Nagarjuna Sagar also continued at 2.83 lakh cusecs at 5 pm, with an equal outflow. The water level reached 587.3 ft as against the FRL of 590 ft. The reservoir, which has a storage capacity of 312.05 TMCft, still has a flood cushion of 6.5 TMCft.

The Pulichintala Project was getting 2.42 lakh cusec at 8 pm from Sagar and was 90 per cent filled. It has a storage capacity of 45.77 TMCft and was letting down 1.76 lakh cusecs. With this and other inflows from the upper tributaries of the river Krishna, Prakasam Barrage recorded an inflow of 4.10 lakh cusecs at 7 pm, and officials were letting downstream 3.18 lakh cusecs.

Officials said the flood discharge to the barrage was steady and would rise as per the CWC's forecast. Sunkesula Barrage, across the Tungabhadra, also has a falling trend in flow forecast.

In Godavari basin, the water level at Bhadrachalam and at Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage, Dowleswaram, was falling. After again surging to over 21 lakh cusecs at the barrage on Saturday, due to which the third warning was given, the flow reduced to 18.3 lakh cusecs by 3 pm, Sunday, and the second warning continued.

TROUBLE-SHOOTER NO MORE

RAVINDRAN, V-P OF TNIE, PASSES AWAY

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

N Ravindran

N RAVINDRAN, Vice-President, Information Technology of The New Indian Express group, passed away on Sunday morning due to cardiac arrest after brief hospitalisation in the city. He was 53. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Ravi, as he was affectionately called, joined the TNIE group over 25 years ago and subsequently led its information technology vertical. He was instrumental in the group's overall technology revamp and upgradation.

He was a team player who would happily take up any challenge, even outside his core area, and implement them effectively, making him the go-to person for trouble-shooting.

In the process, he spearheaded many projects for the group and took keen interest in all aspects of the newspaper business, supporting them effectively, and becoming a solution provider.

Even when he was a college student, he was eager to share his knowledge and teach fellow students. This was a trait he continued to display till the end, training entire generations of IT graduates hired by the group and participating in their professional growth. Ravi was also a good listener who would pick up ideas and see if they could be implemented within his domain.

As committed as he was to his profession, Ravi played a big role in community development around his residence in Nolambur. He was instrumental in persuading the Greater Chennai Corporation to lay better roads and improve connectivity by getting a bus stop in Nolambur for people to access public transport. His commitment towards community service was recognised by the Rotary Club.

Ravi also had a liking for the performing arts and keenly promoted the interest of his daughters in classical dance forms. His role in making them accomplished dancers was pivotal.

He was a philanthropist, too, as he supported the education of many youngsters. His enthusiasm and zest for life was infectious and so was his smile. The TNIE group will miss the man of multiple parts. The management and staff of TNIE expressed shock and grief over the demise of Ravindran and conveyed their deep-felt condolences to the bereaved family.

COVID-19 VACCINE

Hyd firm gets nod for Covaxin skin trials

V NILESH @Hyderabad

HYDERABAD-BASED vaccine manufacturer Bharat Biotech has received permission from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) to take up clinical trials of its Covid-19 vaccine candidate, Covaxin, to be administered through the intradermal route.

While the company's vaccine candidate is already under clinical trials at 12 centres across the country, it is being administered through the intramuscular route in which the vaccine is delivered by injection into the muscles.

Vaccine administration via the intradermal route means the vaccine will be delivered by injection into the dermis, which is the layer beneath the outer layer of skin (epidermis).

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), intradermal technique of vaccine administration is 'dose-sparing', which means it consumes less vaccine than the intramuscular delivery method.

Also this method helps in reducing per-injection cost of vaccines and is also found to be more effective in inducing immune response.

According to the minutes of the meeting held on August 13 in New Delhi, of the Subject Expert Committee (SEC) for Covid-19 under accelerated approval process, Bharat Biotech presented its proposal for conduct of Phase I/II clinical trials of Covaxin by intradermal (ID) route.

The vaccine manufacturer also presented animal toxicity data of the vaccine candidate generated through the intradermal/intraperitoneal route.

Local transmission in cases, BBSR corporation on toes

Bhubaneswar: Rising infections from unknown sources has emerged a major challenge for the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) in containing spread of Covid-19 in the State Capital. Around 43 per cent of the total cases reported in the city in the last one week is due to local transmission with the source of infection undetected, statistic reveal. The city has recorded 2,043 cases in one week between August 17 and 23, of which 895 are from local contact.

State units want Sonia or Rahul to lead Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
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CONGRESS units in most states back the Nehru-Gandhi family. Terming the demand for leadership change untenable, Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh said the Gandhis were the only universally recognizable face of the Congress.

Congressmen in Andhra Pradesh requested Rahul Gandhi to take over as party chief once again. "Rahul Gandhi is the only person capable of countering the RSS and BJP forces," said Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee chief Sake Sailajanath.

Many party leaders in Kerala, too, prefer Rahul – an MP from Wayanad – as All India Congress Committee (AICC) president, though some feel party veteran AK Antony would make it if Sonia resigns and Rahul doesn't step in.

In Odisha, a majority of Congressmen feel the party cannot survive without a Gandhi at the helm.

Congressmen in Telangana said they would back Rahul in case Sonia steps down.

"Rahul has leadership mettle. His record of fighting with Narendra Modi on several issues makes him the automatic choice for the leadership position," Said Congress Legislature Party leader Bhatti Vikramarka.

Sabh gets appreciation letter from minister

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THE school was in a pathetic condition and had not been painted for decades. I also believe that my gesture will make the villagers and students bless my son so that he can recover fast," Mohammad Sabh added.

As soon as this came to the notice of Minister Suresh Kumar, he spoke to Mohammad Sabh over phone, thanked him and also praised him.

"Minister Suresh Kumar praised me, which is one of the memorable moments of my life. He also told me I was an inspiration to all and assured me of providing help for my son's treatment," the delighted father said.

Applauding Mohammad Sabh's work, ZP CEO Bhooblan said, "Despite financial hardships, he has done an amazing job of improving his workplace. We will support him and the school in all possible ways."

S Pochangundi, the headmaster, who did not know of Mohammad Sabh's plans, said, "When we left the school after working hours on Saturday (August 7), the building did not look any different. But on Monday, we were amazed to see the school building sporting a new colour.

We are proud to have such an employee working amidst us." The ZP CEO recently gave Mohammad Sabh two certificates of appreciation, one from the ZP and the other on behalf of the minister, and felicitated the family on the school premises.

EXPRESS READ

Apex Council meet on Telangana-Andhra water sharing issues postponed

The second meeting of Apex Council scheduled for August 25 to resolve the Krishna and Godavari river water sharing issues between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh has been postponed. According to an order issued by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, the meeting was postponed due to unavoidable circumstances and that the new date of the meeting will be intimidated soon.

Firemen douse blaze that burnt down three buses parked at Koyambeedu Omni Bus Stand in Chennai on Sunday | DEBADATTA MALLICK

OLD GUARD

'Unfortunate that Gandhi family being questioned'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THE entire state unit of the Congress stands by Sonia Gandhi and the Gandhi family, who have sacrificed a lot. Both could have become Prime Ministers, but they sacrificed the top post for the party," D K Shivakumar said, adding that the 23 signatories of the letter have enjoyed the power thanks to the Gandhi family. "There is a collective responsibility for where we are now. Such behaviour should not be allowed," he said.

Senior Karnata Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) leaders also insisted that not having a Gandhi as an AICC president is untenable, whether it is for consensus and decision-making or for winning votes. Many leaders, including working president Saleem Ahmed, are not just standing by the Gandhi family, but are also want Rahul Gandhi back as All India Congress Committee (AICC) president. "Rahul Gandhi should return as AICC president immediately and start working with the experience and confidence of seniors and the strength of youngsters," said Ahmed.

MLAs Dinesh Gundu Rao and Rizwan Arshad were two of many KPCC leaders who want Rahul Gandhi to return as president. Siddaramaiah lashed out at his colleagues and signatories of the letter, saying, "It is unfortunate that the leadership of Gandhi family is being questioned by a few. In these difficult times of undeclared emergency and attack on democracy by BJP, we should collectively strive to strengthen Congress and not weaken it."

NATION'S PRIDE

Jahangir-era gold coins fetch ₹43.5 lakh in Australia auction

AIHIK SUR @Hyderabad

TWO rare Mughal era gold coins, which were once in possession of an important personality in the Nizam's administration during the pre-Independence period, were recently auctioned for ₹43.5 lakh in Australia.

The square gold coins, weighing around 14 grams each and minted in Lahore in 1607 (1017 AH), were auctioned on July 30 by Australia-based Noble Numismatics Pty Ltd. It's description in the catalogue available on its website reads, "A heavy special 25 per cent overweight presentation type issue from the early part of his (Jahangir's) reign."

"The issue has poetic couplet on the reverse (in persian). It reads: He made the face of money to shine with hues of sun and moon, together with mint formula zarb Lahore," it adds.

Although the auction description says that the coins were held by a 'Taraporevala who was the financial advisor to the Nizam', historians feel that the description is wrong, and that it was instead in possession of Captain B S Taraporevala of the Nizam's Army.

Mughal coins which were in possession of the Nizam's administration, were recently auctioned in Australia

There was indeed a Taraporevala in the Nizam's administration who was a financial advisor or accountant to the last Nizam -- Khan Bahadur C B Taraporevala.

"The accountant Taraporevala had nothing to do with the coins. It is Capt Taraporevala who had one of the biggest coin collections in the country," Mohammad Safiullah of the Deccan Heritage Trust said.

Safiullah said that Taraporevala had a collection of around 1,000 coins, most of which were taken over by the National Museum in Delhi. "However, some like the ones auctioned now, may have found its way to foreign shores through individual collectors," he added.

Safiullah says that in the 1940s, the country's museums used to sell their surplus gold coins in a very reasonably range -- between ₹30 to ₹40. "In fact in the mid 80s, the government museum in Lucknow used to sell bronze, silver and gold coins based on the prevailing rates. However, now museums are not allowed to sell anything," he added.

How the coins may have reached foreign shores is not conclusively known, there is a long persisting issue of the smuggling of Mughal gold coins. Recently reports said that the Central Bureau of Investigation has apparently reopened the case of missing Mughal gold coins which were allegedly smuggled out of the country in the 1970s.

EDITORIAL

Today, no country can ever truly cut itself off from the global media or from external sources of information; trends that start in one corner of the world are rapidly replicated thousands of miles away

Francis Fukuyama

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

INSTEAD OF SECOND CAPITAL, DECENTRALISE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN TN

As Tamil Nadu is warming up for the Assembly elections early next year, there has been a clamour among ruling AIADMK ministers for a second capital on the lines of Andhra Pradesh. Revenue Minister R B Udhayakumar raised the pitch over making Madurai the second capital. He urged the high command to consider the temple city located in the southern zone as a counter-balance to Chennai's location in the northern part of TN. Taking this theme forward, Tourism Minister Vellamandi N Natarajan pitched Tiruchy as the best option, claiming it is equipped with good infrastructure including an international airport and is agriculturally prosperous as it is in the Delta region, and, most importantly, that it was the choice of AIADMK founder M G Ramachandran. But Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami put an end to the varying demands last week, saying these were opinions of individual ministers, not that of the party or the government.

Experts have pointed out that Chennai's expansion has reached a saturation level and it is therefore prudent to come up with an alternative. They also said that decentralisation was important, not by going for a second capital, but by the Cities Sharing Capital Functions (CSCF) project, a concept to set up satellite cities to improve infrastructure and expand economic and socio-cultural activities. The idea, mooted by the School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada, and senior professor Dr Abdul Razak Mohamed—who was part of the high-level committee constituted by the AP government for developing state capitals—was that multiple cities sharing functions of the capital will help distribute both human and economic resources.

Such organic decentralisation and subsequent creation of infrastructure-rich cities would help in an even distribution of assets, industries and employment, and keep real estate interests out of the table. This may also help parties decentralise their pitch by working towards development across the state. When other cities get attention, manufacturing and IT industries may consider shifting out of Chennai. This will help decongest the capital and help industries attract local labour.

REWARD MERIT IN SPORTS, NOT VESTED INTERESTS

Selection for the National Sports Awards presented on August 29—birthday of hockey legend Dhyan Chand—is a constant source of controversy. This year, the noise is about the sudden expansion of the field, apart from the traditional debate over merit. In a change from the practice of choosing one or two other than in Olympic years, five were bestowed the Khel Ratna, India's biggest sporting award. And despite a stipulated limit of 20 in place, 29 athletes were conferred the Arjuna. What did sportspersons achieve that caused this surge in numbers?

The answer is complex because there is no common yardstick. There are World Championship medallists who have shone at the top level. Then there is an Arjuna awardee from football, in which India has not done anything even at the Asian level. There are award winners from disciplines that are not played in the Olympic, Asian or Commonwealth Games. Making the mix more diverse are cricketers, because cricket caters to its own world that is different from those of other global sports. So asking 'why him or her' and 'why not him or her' is an endless process. This is an inherent problem with these awards that cannot be eradicated. But that does not mean these awards should be used as a tool to look after vested, strategic or political interests.

Seeing on the list of recipients some who did not exactly excel in the recent past, one cannot but help get a feeling that these awards are given to more and more persons to build a pro-sports image. 'Reward more to grab more attention' seems to be the objective, rather than taking care of the true requirements of a sportsperson. This is a populist principle seen before elections, when promises are made and freebies are doled out. Otherwise, there would have been no need to reward mediocrity or performance in retrospect to such an extent that the number of recipients has set a record. This also creates a false sense of accomplishment, apart from lowering the bar. If not checked, this will become an unwanted trend.

India has a good chance of capitalising on the changes, provided the government puts in place the right policies—and assures investors of policy stability

POST-COVID GLOBAL ALIGNMENTS

PROSENJIT DATTA

Senior business journalist

AMIT BANDRE

In the early days of the pandemic, as countries rushed to close their borders to contain the spread of the virus, global manufacturing operations got disrupted. Supply shocks rippled through the globe.

The overdependence on China, which accounted for 28% of the global manufacturing output, became apparent. It also gave rise to calls for bringing manufacturing back within their own borders.

The anti-globalisation rhetoric was not a by-product of the pandemic. It had started a few years earlier as nationalist leaders were elected in different countries on the back of their promise to get manufacturing jobs back. The disillusionment with globalisation had a lot to do with the unequal distribution of wealth it created—with billionaires making outsized gains while average workers saw job losses and income drops.

The pandemic only amplified the cries for local manufacturing that were simmering for some time. Every country in the world, from the US to India, is trying to see if it can shift more production within its own shores. The tensions that many countries have with a belligerent China have only added to the move.

Despite the fact that global trade, especially merchandise trade, has slowed sharply, the fear of the death of the globalisation is overblown. Two examples will suffice to illustrate this.

The first is the way countries and companies around the world are collaborating to research, conduct clinical trials and then produce the vaccine. The global collaboration is unprecedented with labs and companies in the US, EU and Asia working in tandem for drug discovery, clinical trials as well as tying up with manufacturers in different nations to ensure enough production capacities. Sure, this could be dismissed as a short-term collaboration in face of a common danger. But many global analysts feel that this will remain the norm even after a cure for Covid is discovered.

The other indicator is that after a sharp drop due to Covid, the flow of funds in search of investment opportunities and deals is again picking up. According to Amitabh Kant, the CEO of policy think tank Niti Aayog, India attracted over $22 billion FDI even during the first few months of the pandemic. In the developed world, there are just not enough opportunities for investors looking for higher returns.

But the post-Covid global alignments will also be markedly different from the pre-Covid ones and Indian policymakers need to understand that. There are advantages that can be leveraged, but only if the proper policies are put in place.

Many analysts have pointed out that regional supply clusters are likely to replace a single manufacturing hub. In Asia, the search for alternatives to China has given rise to opportunities for India but it faces stiff competition from Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Bangladesh, apart from South Korea, Thailand and Taiwan.

Though India has lagged behind these rivals in manufacturing, there are two things going in its favour. The first is that none of its rivals have the capacity or manpower to take up the entire production volumes that are expected to move out of China. More importantly, India is a huge market and it has never yet leveraged its consumption volumes to attract global manufacturing commensurate with its potential except in the case of automobiles. Apart from cars, India has managed only a thin slice of the manufacturing pie so far, and that is largely because of its chaotic and constantly changing policies.

> Apart from cars, India has managed only a thin slice of the manufacturing pie so far, largely because of its constantly changing policies. What is needed is a sharper focus on areas where capabilities already exist

Instead of trying to compete in everything, India needs to first decide on the sectors in which it has natural advantages or a foothold already in the global supply chain. There is no point in a scatter-bomb approach that wastes resources. What is needed is a sharper focus on areas where capabilities already exist.

The pharmaceutical sector has great potential but India has frittered away some advantages by depending heavily on China for APIs. India had a thriving API industry and, with the right policies, it can do so again.

There are other sectors such as textiles fabrics and consumer durables and even food products where it can make a strong play. There are others such as optical instruments or chip fabrication or apparels where it makes little sense to try and compete globally.

The big hurdles have always been erratic policies, incoherent and rapidly changing taxes, and issues such as land acquisition problems and local compliances. A lack of quality consciousness, productivity and the tendency to cut corners has also made many MNCs wary of production in India.

Technology products—and not just IT services—could be a big opportunity too. Globally, the technology industry is divided into two clusters—Silicon Valley vs China. The world's wariness with China's tech giants and the possibility of a break-up of the Silicon Valley's big five tech companies because of antitrust hearings provides a chance for India to play in a field it was getting marginalised in.

But first, Indian policymakers need to assure global investors that they can expect sensible laws and policy stability—and not constant tinkering that leads to uncertainties. The window of opportunity is short and policymakers need to get their act together before it closes.

(prosaicview@gmail.com)

EDUCATION: WHY THE SHOW MUST GO ON

VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE

National Vice President of the BJP, President, ICCR, and Rajya Sabha MP

Even when Covid-19 has compelled all of us into a collective languor, there are people across India and abroad who have continued to trod their path cautiously with preventive measures, epitomising the *charaiveti, charaiveti* (keep moving, keep moving) mantra. Many industries are opening because of such souls; factories are being unlocked and the discussion has veered now on to when and how schools will reopen.

Just recently, UN secretary general Antonio Guterres warned that the world is facing a "generational catastrophe" due to the ongoing closure of schools. More than 1,500 members of London's Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, in a statement last month (actually, it was an open letter to the British premier), termed the lockdown as a case of 'cure worse than the disease'. Countries like Denmark, South Africa, Finland, etc., have made more or less successful attempts to restart their schools, where students are divided into smaller batches and given entry into the school with masks and social distancing made mandatory.

According to Arnaud Fontanet, Head of the Epidemiology of Emerging Diseases Unit at the Institut Pasteur, children below 11-12 years are less likely to spread the transmission. He says middle school students are more likely to catch the infection in school while those at the primary school level are more prone to getting infected at home. Possibly because of this, Netherlands has cut down on the number of students in each class by half but has refrained from imposing social distancing for children below 12 years. Denmark too has put restrictions on the number of students per class. The emphasis is on conducting classes out in the open, so much so that some classes are held even in cemeteries. Germany and Brazil too are experimenting with smaller class strengths.

India has not reopened schools as yet, but several states have come up with innovative solutions combining online and offline measures. Andhra Pradesh started a helpline to address study-related problems faced by students. Over 200-odd teachers man this helpline and provide guidance to callers. Arunachal Pradesh has roped in radio to reach out to students in the far-flung areas. Assam and Bihar have used a mobile app to take the school to each household. Sikkim has started a Facebook channel for its students. Pankhe village in Pune district has launched a novel campaign with the slogan 'Schools closed, Education continues' while using WhatsApp tutorials.

On the one hand, schools and managements are trying especially hard to ensure that students do not miss out on anything. And on the other, there are states that are opposing conducting the final year examination for degree students. Considering that a return to normalcy is generally high on the agenda of state governments, a reluctance to conduct examinations is eyebrow-raising. Those opposing final year examinations fail to gauge the damage that such a move would do to the careers of lakhs of students. A few decades ago, a massive fire in the godown where the answer sheets of students of Class 10 of the Maharashtra SSC board examinations were stored burnt everything down to ashes. The state was constrained to declare all those who had appeared for the exam as passed. However, even decades thereafter, all of them are poohpoohed and referred to as the batch of 'burnt SSC'! Those opposing final year exams must understand that they are forcing a complete batch of these students to carry this stamp of 'passed-without-exam' on their forehead for their entire lifetime, without any fault of theirs.

> On the one hand, schools are trying especially hard to ensure that students do not miss out on anything. And on the other, there are states that are opposing conducting the final year examination for degree students.... This, of course, is not to suggest that the threat of the pandemic is not serious enough ...

'No examination' may appear as an easy, and therefore alluring, way to create an impression that the problem is solved. However, advocates of this policy forget that this may create a permanent inferiority complex in the minds of the batch of 2020! Those who see no wrong in appointing fellow party workers as Gram Panchayat administrators or those who occupy the top position in a political party simply because of their belonging to a particular dynasty may not find 'promotion sans examination' odd. However, for a crass populist move like this, students and their families will be paying a heavy price in the future.

This, of course, is not to suggest that the threat of the pandemic is not serious enough. But the challenge thrown by the pandemic has to be met with a catch-the-bull-by-its-horns approach! If a village teacher in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra can use a microphone for a public lecture on a lesson in geography which the students are made to listen to sitting at their homes, if a variety of social media platforms could be put to use for disseminating education elsewhere, avoiding examinations of final year students is like surrendering before the challenge. To start with, at least this mindset of helplessness needs to be done away with.

Once we overcome this, efforts for finding solutions could be taken to a different level. Let's take the example of university examinations. Had universities experimented with what is called the question bank system, we could have found ourselves in a position to have hassle-free examinations. Under this, typically, a bank of 100 questions is announced right at the start of the academic year. At the time of final year examinations, students are expected to attempt any, say, 15 questions that are decided by a lottery draw. This way, examinees in every classroom face a different set of questions, thereby absolutely negating the threat of a question-paper leak. Moreover, in a Covid-19-like situation, one can have multiple batches of students for the same exam to comply with the limit on the number of examinees at a time.

Extraordinary situations demand extraordinary solutions. It is convenient to go for a compromise, easy to give up on set standards and norms, and perhaps alluring to take a populist position. But to be steadfast on certain issues needs courage of conviction. Let's hope that the same will not be in short supply in the larger interest of all. After all, 'The show must go on' will have to be the spirit!

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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Years of denial & U-turn

After years of denial, Pakistan has admitted to Dawood Ibrahim's presence in the country at last. (*Fearing FATF action, Pak steps up curbs on terrorists*, Aug 28). It is funny that Pakistan did a U-turn after this and claimed that he was not in its territory, despite providing the mailing address of the most wanted criminal who is living in Karachi.

K V Raghuram, Wayanad

Judiciary in eye of a storm

The Indian judiciary has been in the eye of many a storm in recent times (*The virtuous out, the virtual in*, Aug 23). The courts must command respect through erudite functioning, shorn of favoritism, before demanding it.

Dr George Jacob, Kochi

Shocking fire tragedy

That nine people were killed as a major fire broke out at the Srisailam power station due to a suspected short circuit is shocking. It only reveals the dereliction of duties of the officials concerned. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members who have lost their dear ones.

Syed Amjad Ali, Secunderabad

Wake-up call

That India tops the list of countries in the number of victims in fire accidents should be a wake-up call to our governments. Invariably, analysis reveals that the accidents take place due to short circuits. Had periodic safety audits been in place, many such tragedies could have been averted.

K Jayanthi, Chennai

Ideological dogmatism

The combined opposition to the modernisation of the Trivandrum airport is symbolic of Kerala politics. We will possibly have to wait for some more time for people to understand the futility of ideological dogmatism that is impeding progress in the state.

Dharmarajan A K, Thalassery

Can't have it both ways

During the initial days of gold smuggling at the Thiruvananthapuram airport, the Kerala regime asserted to the public that the airport, customs, etc., are under the Centre's control and so the government has no role in whatever is happening there. So, one wonders how it can now oppose a move to privatise it, something that is clearly not under its jurisdiction.

Savita Surej, Thiruvananthapuram

On Ganesh Chathurthi day

Thanks for publishing the article *Vatapi Ganapati, an art historical revisit* (Aug 22) on Ganesh Chathurthi day. The author described in detail some historical places around Vatapi, the erstwhile capital of the Chalukyas, and also gave a vivid description of Ganesha images.

R D N Rao, Hyderabad

Deity in ancient times

The article was interesting and educational. The author threw light on the history of Ganesha images in Karnataka, including Vatapi, which is largely unknown compared to the popular kriti *Vatapi Ganapatim Bhaje*. The information about the revered deity from very ancient times is much appreciated.

Sanath Kumar T S, Thrissur

History of Vatapi Ganapati

The article points out the history of the Vatapi Ganapathi. It clearly shows the differences between Ganesha sculptures in the Badami Chalukya era and the Tiruchenkattankudi image.

M Sriram, Mayiladuthurai

Risky one-day session

Reverse quarantine involves separating the vulnerable population at risk of developing serious disease from the general public during the pandemic. The mortality could then be reduced. People 65 and over fall into this category according to the government. In this context, the one-day session of the Kerala Assembly scheduled for Monday is risky as at least 40 MLAs are aged 70 or above.

K A Solaman, Alappuzha

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

M Venkaiah Naidu @MVenkaiahNaidu
India can't progress unless women are given equal opportunities

Ashok Gehlot @ashokgehlot51
News of 23 seniormost Congress leaders writing letter to party president is unbelievable and if it is true, it's very unfortunate

Shivraj Singh Chouhan @ChouhanShivraj
People have written to Sonia Gandhi, asking her to leave the post. Party is bound to sink now

STRESS ON MSME SECTOR

ISSUES AFFECTING MSMES

Over 4 crore jobs already lost

Nearly 64 % of the MSMEs don't have funds to pay current salaries

The 3 lakh crore package has fulfilled 19% demand

Over 50 % MSMEs say that payment have delayed by more than 3 months

Cashflows and delayed payments remain a huge problem

Large number of MSMEs need credit

Nearly 70 % of the enterprises say that survival without support will be difficult

GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS AND TAX REFUNDS COMPLETELY UNSATISFACTORY

SHARE OF MSMES IN ALL INDIA GDP

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
29.5	29.3	29.7	30.3

MSMES IN THE COUNTRY

Micro	Small	Medium
5,381,482	698,057	26,799

TOTAL MSMES 6,106,338

Govt boosters have failed to lift sick MSMEs: Association

KUMAR VIKRAM @New Delhi

GOVERNMENT schemes aimed at reviving the MSMEs hit by the double whammy of slowdown and corona-induced lockdown have done little to lift the sector, according to MSME associations.

Nearly 20-30 per cent of the workforce employed in over 6 crore micro, small and medium enterprises in the country has been rendered jobless in last four month, they said. Over 60 per cent of the MSME units don't have enough funds to pay salaries to their existing employees.

Lack of demand, liquidity crunch, delayed cash flows and manpower crunch have taken its toll on the MSME sector which is one of the biggest employers and contributes nearly 30 per cent to India's GDP. MSME associations say though there is no government on the actual number of jobs in the MSME sector, at least 20 crore people are earning their livelihoods through this sector.

Chandrakant Salunkhe, president, SME Chamber of India, said most of the units are running with nearly 30-35 per cent of the manpower. All companies are facing problems with supply of raw materials. "Raw materials are available but it needs cash and MSMEs do not have cash in hand," he said.

"Export orders have slowed down. So, the companies mainly involved in exports are not manufacturing. MSMEs which used to supply these exporters are also facing problems. The whole chain has got affected," said Salunkhe.

A recent RBI survey also pointed out towards the stress in the sector, accentuated by "lack of cash flows... low demand, lack of manpower, stuck working capital and lack of capital".

Nearly, 60 per cent respondents in the RBI survey believed that chances of recovery in the MSME sector — which suffered from massive labour migration, production halt, and cash flow crunch during the lockdown — in the next six months were bleak, while 40 per cent felt it would be moderate.

The main issue is what will happen after that. Actually this is not a solution; it is a temporary support. At least the moratorium should be extended further till the year-end

Chandrakant Salunkhe, president, SME Chamber of India

With a view to support the ailing sector, the government decided to provide ₹3 lakh crore in collateral-free automatic loans to MSMEs aimed at providing additional working capital to existing customers of banks under '*Atmanirbhar Bharat* scheme'.

However, MSME associations have said it has not helped much. Anil Bhardwaj, secretary general, Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises, said the scheme has limited benefits. "This is like if you have any due on February 29, then you would get 20 per cent of that due collateral free and this is it. You would not get anything if you don't have any loan. So this scheme is only for existing borrowers," he said. "There are many ifs and buts and the scheme is not as successful as it has been projected."

Bhardwaj said most of the MSMEs which have not taken loans have scaled/shut down their business. Enterprises involved in hotels, restaurants, event managements, weddings have been affected very badly.

Referring to a recent survey, he said nearly 64 per cent MSMEs don't have funds to pay current salaries and a large number of MSMEs need credit as the ₹3 lakh crore package has fulfilled just 19 per cent of the demand.

MSME associations say the real situation will evolve after the end of the moratorium period. "The RBI has given moratorium till August 31. But, the main issue is what will happen after that. Actually this is not a solution; it is a temporary support. At least the moratorium should be extended further till the year-end," Salunkhe said.

He also raised questions on the approach of banks.

"There are around 6.5 crore MSME units in India of which only 40-45 lakh enjoy bank facilities...Either banks are not reaching them or MSMEs are not interested in taking loans from banks as interest is high and getting a loan is not easy," said Salunkhe.

Cong veterans unhappy with Rahul

Both Gandhi siblings have attacked seniors during CWC meets for not being on same page

RICHA SHARMA @ New Delhi

RAHUL Gandhi's move to sideline party veterans is one of the reasons behind the dissent letter written by some senior leaders seeking a "collective leadership", say sources.

The party sources cited several instances — Rajya Sabha elections, appointments in state units and Rajasthan crisis— in the last one year showing how he continues to call shots in the party and seniors are being sidelined.

Senior party leaders say that among the signatories, Rajya Sabha MPs Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma and Kapil Sibal, seemingly drafted the letter. Azad, who is opposition leader in Rajya Sabha and his term ends early 2021 and Sharma, his deputy in Rajya Sabha, are seemingly upset with the former Lok Sabha opposition leader Mallikarjun Kharge being brought to the Rajya Sabha. Azad may also not get another term in the upper house while Kharge will be elevated in his place.

Also, both Gandhi siblings have attacked senior party leaders during the Congress Working Committee meetings for not being on the same page when it comes to Rahul's attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Some Congress leaders had expressed that attacking the PM will not serve a purpose and the party should target the policies of BJP government.

"Senior leaders feel that they are not consulted on any key party decisions. They want the party to make collective decisions. They felt humiliated during the meeting of Rajya Sabha MPs with Sonia Gandhi when a young MP attacked the UPA regime," said a senior party leader.

A divide among young and senior party leaders came to the fore during the meeting in July as some young MPs, including Rajiv Satav, in-charge for Gujarat, called for introspection within the party and that if the party is paying for the work during the UPA regime. Satav, who is considered close to Rahul, has been sent to Rajya Sabha along with KC Venugopal, party's organisation secretary.

Rahul Gandhi had resigned from the party's top post in July, 2019.

In the letter shared on his Twitter account, Rahul had taken responsibility for the party's massive defeat in the general elections but had added a word of caution for other party leaders.

Senior leaders felt humiliated during meeting of MPs with Sonia Gandhi | PTI

Senior leaders feel that they are not consulted on any key party decisions. They want the party to make collective decisions

Senior Congress leader

Azad, Sibal draft dissent letter

Among the signatories, Rajya Sabha MPs Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma and Kapil Sibal, seemingly drafted the letter. Azad, who is opposition leader in Rajya Sabha and his term ends early 2021 and Sharma, his deputy in Rajya Sabha, are seemingly upset with the former Lok Sabha opposition leader Mallikarjun Kharge being brought to the Rajya Sabha.

Not right time to rehaul party, says Punjab CM

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

PUNJAB Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Sunday vehemently opposed the bid to challenge the Gandhi family leadership in the party, saying this is not the time to raise such an issue.

In a statement, Singh said, "The need today is for a strong opposition against the BJP-led NDA which is out to destroy the country's constitutional ethos and democratic principles."

He further added that the move by some Congress leaders to demand a rehaul of the party at this critical juncture would be detrimental to its and nation's interests. "What the Congress needs is a leadership that is acceptable not just to a few but to the party, through its rank, and the nation," he said, adding that the Gandhis were the right fit for this role. "Sonia Gandhi should continue to helm the Congress as long as she wants," he said, adding that Rahul should thereafter take over as he is fully competent to lead party.

"Electoral defeats could not be the yardstick for the leadership change," he said, adding that just because Congress was down at the moment did not mean the Gandhis' contribution should be undermined.

PRANAB

No change in ex-prez's health: Docs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THERE is no change in the health of former President Pranab Mukherjee and he continues to remain on ventilator support, the Army's Research and Referral hospital said on Sunday.

Doctors attending on the 84-year-old Mukherjee said his vital parameters are stable.

Mukherjee was admitted to the hospital in Delhi Cantonment on August 10 and was operated for removal of a clot in the brain. He had also tested positive for Covid-19.

Thereafter, he developed lung infection and is being treated for the same, doctors have said.

"There is no change in the condition of Shri Pranab Mukherjee this morning. He remains in a deep coma and on ventilator support. His vital parameters are stable," the hospital said in a statement.

Mukherjee was the 13th President of India from 2012 to 2017.

With PTI inputs

Centre should bring law to allocate 6% of GDP for education: Sisodia

DELHI Deputy CM and Education Minister **Manish Sisodia** talked to **Parvez Sultan** and **Gayathri Mani** on the National Education Policy (NEP) and online education in times of the Covid-19 pandemic.

What is your take on the NEP?
I would like to highlight the major problems in our current education system. Then, we can understand what the policy is and what my take on it is. There is zero assurance from the government that quality education will be provided, there is lack of investment in education, there is a poor evaluation system and there is no policy to recognise vocational studies. So, the first and foremost thing about the education system should be to assure citizens that these things will be taken care of. Second, **the NEP promises that 6% of the GDP will be spent on education. Can you fulfil this promise this time?**
My logic is if India can have a law to control fiscal deficit, then why can't there be a law to ensure 6 per cent expenditure on education? The third biggest issue with the current education system is that it is exam-driven. We have had education policies in 1966, 1986 and then we got the National Curriculum Framework in 2005 and then, the Right to Education Act in 2009. These are milestones on which we spoke about some good things but the problem is that everything vanished because of exam system.

Will the NEP have any benefit?
A few things have to be taken care at the national level, which I mentioned earlier. In Delhi, we have taken the standard of schools to the top. Parents are now withdrawing their children from private schools and admitting them in government schools. To change the exam system, we are working on a new curriculum and education board. We started working on it by default and it is not mentioned in the NEP, but we will keep working on it.

You have said the NEP promotes private education. What should have been done to address this?
While drafting the policy, they should have written that India as a country resolves that it will provide good quality education in our government schools and adequate funds will be provided for it.

Can online classes substitute classrooms?
No, online teaching can never be a substitute for classroom teaching. If education could run online, there are countries in the world which are 50 times ahead of us in technology... The aim is to minimise that damage to the students.

INSTITUTE

Vaccine will be launched only after trials show positive results

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE Pune-based Serum Institute, which has partnered with Oxford University to produce covid vaccine, on Sunday clarified that Indian government has granted it permission to only manufacture the vaccine and stockpile it for future use.

Named Covishield, the Oxford University-AstraZeneca vaccine candidate which has been created using parts of adenovirus, will be commercialized once trials are proven successful and requisite regulatory approvals are in place, the company said.

The clarification comes after some reports suggested that the experiment vaccine, developed by Oxford University, could be launched in 73 days.

Phase-3 trials for Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine are underway and only once the vaccine is proven immunogenic and efficacious, SII will confirm its availability officially, the world's largest vaccine manufacturer by volume said.

Meanwhile, the Indian Council of Medical Research is set to launch a Covid19 vaccine website which will provide updated information related to vaccine development against the infectious disease in the country and abroad.

Teachers to give inputs for NEP implementation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE Union education ministry has urged teachers across India to suggest ways to implement the recently approved National Education Policy, 2020.

The ministry has introduced a list of questions through which the teachers were asked to submit their inputs related to school education. In this regard, a letter was sent by school education secretary Anita Karwal to all states.

"To simplify the process for the teachers, the suggestions are being called on each theme of the NEP 2020 related to school education...through a question-answer process. The questions are framed in such a manner that teachers can relate to them from their experience as teachers and classroom transactions," an official statement by the government said.

"Each question also gives reference to the paragraphs of NEP 2020 to which refers to, to enable the teacher to read the same for better understanding of the policy, before uploading suggestions," it added.

The submitted suggestions will be reviewed by a team of experts from the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). Many experts while hailing the broad contours in the policy have said that implementation of many projects--as proposed--could be tedious and even difficult.

"Though suggestions are being called in a limited words format, however, for gathering further information, if required, teachers whose suggestions are found useful for incorporating in National Curriculum Framework or in the implementation plan, shall be individually contacted," said the education ministry.

'No lapel microphones, use less props for shoots'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

INFORMATION and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar on Sunday announced the release of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for resuming shooting of films and TV programmes.

These SOPs have been finalised after consulting the health and home ministries, he said.

Shooting of films and TV serials can be started using these SOPs issued in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, the minister said.

Sharing details of the SOPs, Javadekar said barring those who are in front of cameras all others will have to wear masks He hoped that the release of the SOPs will not only lead to resumption of shooting of films and TV serials, but also generate employment.

The government has advised not to avoid lapel microphones and minimise the use of props.

Shooting for films and TV serials was suspended following the outbreak of the novel coronavirus.

EXPRESS READ

Covid cases in India breaches 30-L mark

New Delhi: India's Covid tally sprinted past 30-lakh mark, just 16 days after it crossed 20 lakh, while 22,80,566 people have recuperated in the country so far pushing the recovery rate to 74.90 per cent,'according to the Health Ministry data.

Along with Covid, healthcare sector deals with another crisis: Docs' suicides

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @New Delhi

IN the middle of an unprecedented public health crisis, the healthcare landscape seems to be facing yet another catastrophe — several doctors choosing to end their lives.

Over the last two months, at least 11 suicides by doctors have been reported, the latest being the case of a government doctor, Nagendra SR in Mysuru, Karnataka who ended his life reportedly due to harassment by fellow doctors. A taluk health officer in Nanjangud tehsil, Dr Nagendra was on Covid-19 duty and reports suggest he was under immense pressure. The aftermath of the unfortunate incident has brought to light a largely underreported and highly problematic issue of high rates of suicides by doctors in the country.

Though no recent central database on suicide figures by doctors is available, experts point out that there is a growing evidence of increased prevalence of psychological problems such as stress, depression, anxiety, and substance abuse and feelings of burnout among medical professionals.

A study by the PGMIER, Chandigarh had shown in 2018 that over 30% of 445 doctors surveyed had depression and 16.7% reported suicidal ideations. More than 90% of the participants reported some level of burnout and compared to faculty, a higher proportion of the residents reported stress, depression, and burnout.

"..study suggests that a significantly higher proportion of doctors in Indian settings experience stress, depression, and burnout," noted the authors. "The presence of stress, depression, and burnout is associated with long working hours and negative patient-related outcomes, adverse doctor–patient interactions, and interpersonal interactions among the colleagues."

Dr Soumitra Pathare, director of the Centre for Mental Health Law and Policy, Pune said, "It may also be a spurious increase — what I mean is that doctors have always had one of the highest suicide rates amongst the population in almost all countries. What you may be seeing recently is a reporting increase of such incidents."

Dr Nand Kumar, a psychiatrist with AIIMS, Delhi said, "Social distancing that has become a norm appears to have precipitated a mental health crisis." "Medical professionals are most affected as while they have to work mandatorily has deprived them from major support system that could be therapeutic and it might have led to feeling of hopelessness and worthlessness leading to suicide," he said.

CBI AT SSR'S FLAT

CBI sleuths on Sunday questioned Sushant Singh Rajput's friend Siddharth Pithani, cook Neeraj Singh and domestic help Deepesh Sawant in connection with his death case and later visited the actor's flat in Bandra

1K VILLAGES AFFECTED BY FLOOD IN UP

Ahmedabad	30	27	Mumbai	30	26
Bhopal	27	24	Panaji	30	24
Jaipur	31	25	Patna	33	27
Amritsar	33	26	Lucknow	34	25
Chennai	34	27	Port Blair	31	26
Kolkata	32	26	Imphal	31	23
Srinagar	34	17	Chandigarh	34	25

Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai greets BJP national president JP Nadda (centre) as Union ministers Ravi Shankar Prasad (left) and Giriraj Singh (right) look on during the virtual Bihar BJP Karyasamiti meeting in New Delhi on Sunday | PTI

BJP to contest Bihar polls on work done by PM, Nitish

Nadda asks workers to spread word on Covid relief, development

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR & EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Patna/Mumbai

THE BJP, with its NDA allies JD-U and LJP, will bank on the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to win the upcoming Bihar assembly elections. BJP's national president JP Nadda on Sunday asked party workers to take the works done by PM Modi including the efforts taken to check the spread of Covid-19, the developmental works done by Nitish Kumar in the state and the packages given by the Centre to Bihar to people via a door-to-door campaign.

Speaking on the last day of party's two-day virtual conference of workers and leaders, Nadda tried his best to downplay a bitter war of words that has intensified between two allies of NDA in Bihar—LJP and JD-U. Repeatedly reiterating to the commitment to fight elections in Bihar under Nitish Kumar's leadership, he said that the BJP, LJP and JD-U will fight the forthcoming assembly elections together.

"Take all the works of developments done here (Bihar) and the centre (by the PM) to the people through door to door campaign. And I'm confident that the NDA will again emerge victorious under Nitish Kumar leadership," he urged the workers.

In a scathing attack on the opposition in Bihar, he termed the opposition as nothing but a "spent-force". "The opposition has lost its vision, valour and spirits for doing the developmental- politics. They are doing politics for the sake of politics only", he said.

Nadda also praised PM Modi's leadership during the coronavirus pandemic. Hailing the 'bold' decision to place the country under lockdown, Nadda claimed that it saved and secured the lives of 130 crores of people of the country.

"Our PM said *jaan hai to Jahan hai* (if there is a life, there's a world) and later after saving lives through the lockdown, PM said that now *jaan bhi hai aur jahan bhi* (now there is life and there is a world)," he said asking the workers to take this to people.

Fadnavis attacks 'Lalu Raj'

Devendra Fadnavis, the Bihar election in-charge, took a dig at RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav accusing him of having taken Bihar 30 years behind in his 15-years rule. He asked the BJP workers to highlight the developmental works done by the NDA government in the state to counter the misleading propaganda of RJD and others in the opposition.

"Lalu ji did only one thing throughout his 15 years of rule by lathi. He brought his family forward pushing the state in reverse," said Fadnavis adding that the state got saved and rescued from the "Lalu's latch" when the NDA was voted to power.

Recalling the days of Lalu-Rabri government, he said: "Bihar became the most backward state after being tortured and exploited under that regime".

Fadnavis said that PM Modi has always stood with the people of Bihar during every crisis.

> **Take all the works of development done in Bihar and by the Centre to people through door to door campaign. I'm confident that the NDA will again emerge victorious under Nitish Kumar's leadership**
> JP Nadda, BJP national president

Suicide vest, bombs found at IS suspect's home

NAMITA BAJPAI @Lucknow

incriminating materials, explosives recovered from alleged ISIS operative Abu Yusuf's residence in UP's Balrampur | PTI

THE Delhi Police, in a joint operation with UP Ant-Terror Squad, recovered a large haul of explosives from the house of the suspected Islamic State operative Abu Yusuf alias Mustaqeem in Badhya Bhasayeen village in Balrampur district of Uttar Pradesh on Sunday. The police teams also found a jacket and an explosive studded belt besides gunpowder and other material be used in a possible *fidayeen* (suicide) attack.

They have also detained Yusuf's father Kafeel Ahmad and two other relatives. Yusuf, 36, was arrested in the Ridge Road area in central Delhi on Saturday following a brief exchange of fire with the police.

The Delhi Police and UP ATS recovered explosives including IEDs from his house after a night-long raid. Additional Superintendent of Police Arvind Kumar claimed that the recovery of the explosive was done on basis of the information extracted from by Yusuf who was brought to Balrampur on Saturday evening. Following the hints given by Yusuf, the cops recovered two more jackets used in *fidayeen* attack from a village pond. Moreover, the police also recovered objectionable Islamic radical literature at his house.

The Delhi Police team and UP ATS are camping at the village in Balrampur. They have sealed the boundaries of Badhya Bhasayeen village and are interrogating people related to Yusuf.

As per police sources, Yusuf had planned a 'lone wolf' terror strike in a high footfall area in Delhi "using a high-intensity pressure cooker-based improvised explosive device (IED)". Police had recovered two pressure cooker IEDs weighing around 15kg, a bore pistol and four cartridges from Khan.

Khan's interrogation had revealed that his original plan was to carry out the IED blasts during the Independence Day celebrations on August 15. However, because of the heavy security arrangements, he could not enter the city and had to drop the plan.

Khan has reportedly confessed to the police that he tested the explosive device at his village a few months ago. As per the key sources, Yusuf had been involved in accumulation of explosives for the last two years.

During the interrogation, Yusuf's wife Ayesha admitted her husband's involvement in suspicious activities for the last two years. However, she did not know about the sources where Yusuf got radicalised from.

EXPRESS READ

CM orders probe in 'party' at Covid ward

Ranchi: A Covid-19 hospital in Dhanbad has hit the headlines again after photographs of a criminal celebrating and taking liquor inside the ward went viral on social media on Sunday. Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren has asked the Deputy Commissioner to take strict action after thorough investigation into the matter.

Akhil Gogoi to be CM candidate of KMSS

Guwahati: Jailed Assam activist Akhil Gogoi will be the chief ministerial candidate of a political party that his peasants' body Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS) will float. The assembly election in the state are due early next year. Gogoi is lodged at the Central Jail in Guwahati since December last year after his arrest by NIA for alleged nexus with the maoists.

Bengal Guv accuses CM Mamata of 'caging' cops

PRANAB MONDAL @Kolkata

WEST Bengal Governor **Jagdeep Dhankhar** has again hit out at the state government urging CM Mamata Banerjee "unshackle political caging of police and administration". Dhankar, who has been directly attacking the chief minister and the state government for quite some time, said that the law and order situation in the state was in an alarming state.

"Urge CM to unshackle political caging/chaining of POLICE and ADMINISTRATION @MamataOfficial. Law and order alarming-with reports of free run to illegal 'bomb making'. UNFORTUNATE- Police & administration ever at door of ruling party-in readiness to knock door of opposition," Dhankhar tweeted.

"This is staggering blow to 'rule of law' and democracy. This menacing stance of police and administration @MamataOfficial would generate consequences. Politically committed police and administration-death knell of democracy. Public servants are not political workers."

Criticising the role of bureaucrats, he added, "Never thought IAS /IPS @MamataOfficial could so capitulate and be in 'crawl' unlawful mode-blatantly unmindful of conduct rules. Their actions are OPEN SECRET. Democratic essence shredded. Why be party to this & crucify democratic values! Time to respond to call of duty."

Earlier, Dhankar had accused state government of spying on him and putting the Raj Bhavan under surveillance.

MYSTERY

Five of family found hanging at home in MP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bhopal

A family of five, including a four-year-old boy, was found hanging at their home under mysterious circumstances in Khargapur town of Tikamgarh district in Madhya Pradesh on Sunday morning. They were identified as retired state animal husbandry department employee Dharamdas Soni, wife Poona, son Manohar, daughter-in-law Sonam and grandson Sahitya.

They were found in two separate rooms of their house at Ganj Mohalla locality of Khargapur town. Police found injury marks on the daughter-in-law's body and blood on Manohar's chest. They are now waiting for the autopsy report to determine whether it was a case of mass suicide or not.

According to SP Prashant Khare, "The house has been sealed and samples have been collected by forensic experts. The autopsy will be conducted by a panel of doctors. Though it seems a case of suicide, anything concrete can only be said once the autopsy reports are out."

Sources, however, said there was a dispute in the family for some days over the sale of piece of land and Manohar not having a job.

BHOPAL I-T RAIDS

'Benami' assets bought in name of servants, priest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bhopal

I-T sleuths are gearing up to question suspects in Bhopal after they ended their searches at 20 premises of heads of two high-profile builders and people associated with them on Sunday morning.

At least five-six individuals from very humble backgrounds, including a temple priest and the servants and employees of the head of one of the two groups, were shown in papers as owners of immovable properties whose value spans from ₹10 crore to ₹20 crore. This, the sources said, strongly suggests that rich and influential individuals could have parked unaccounted money into benami properties under the garb of these poor folks.

The preliminary findings indicate the possibility of retired bureaucrats and police officers parking sizeable unaccounted money in benami properties in projects of the two groups. The raids are turning out to be a political fodder for the opposition to target the BJP government.

According to sources, the searches were carried out based on specific inputs, including a complaint that was forwarded by the Enforcement Directorate.

Properties dealings

A jeweller, who has ventured into property dealings, allegedly purchased properties in the name of a property broker friend also, sources said

Heads of one of the two business groups at whose premises the raids were conducted over the last three days, is primarily a jeweller, whose family has been running a jewellery shop for many years in Bhopal's old city area.

A jeweller-turned property dealer bought properties on behalf of high-profile clients in the name of others including a property dealer friend, sources said.

Probe ordered into Maha BJP chief for 'hiding' income

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA BJP unit president Chandrakant Patil is in trouble over hiding ownership of two businesses and his income from these firms in his affidavit for the 2019 assembly election. Hearing a petition seeking for a probe in matter, a Pune court has directed the police to investigate the complaint and submit a report by September 16.

However, Patil has refuted these allegations terming them a big political conspiracy against him. "If anyone had any issue with my filed affidavit, he or she should have raised the objection at that time only. The returning officer scrutinised my affidavit and forms and they did not find anything wrong. Besides, the person who contested against me also did not raise any doubt or query that time. Why is there a fuss now? It shows there is big plot to malign me and my party's image," Patil said.

Abhishekh Haridas, a Pune resident, had filed a petition alleging Patil not only suppressed information about his ownership of two business firms, but also did not mention the income earned through them. Patil is the MLA from Kothrud constituency in Pune.

NOBLE GESTURE

12-year-old girl in Bengal gets new home courtesy actor

PRANAB MONDAL @Kolkata

SONU Sood, who has been winning plaudits for his work in helping migrants and others during the pandemic, has won hearts again after helping out a 12-year-old girl in north Bengal's Jalpaiguri. Touched by a photograph showing the heart-wrenching condition of the Kirshti Chhetri's living conditions, Sood reached out to the remote village some 2,500km away from Mumbai and helped build her a new house.

Sood was tagged on Twitter in a post shared by Kirshti's neighbour Sonal Singh. Kirshti was living a shed made of a tattered plastic sheet and a few gunny bags stitched together.

Kirshti Chhetri's makeshift house (left) and new house funded by Sonu Sood | TWITTER

After noticing the photograph of Kirshti Chhetri's 'house', Sood provided the funds for a house.

"I never imagined a personality like Sonu will react and respond to my tweet. I am simple person and helping out Krishti was not in my capacity. We will never forget what he has done for the girl," said Sonal.

The girl, whose father lost his job during the lockdown, named the new house *Sonu Sood Niwas*. On seeing Krishti's new house, Sood said on his Twitter handle, "A nice house has been constructed. Now I can say I have a home in Jalpaiguri."

Raju Karmakar, another of Krishti's neighbour, said, "We witnessed how the little girl was struggling. She and her father used to stay at the shanty in monsoon and winter facing all odds and tough situations. The actor living thousands of kms away from here reacted to her plight and responded. We all are grateful to him."

NAMITA BAJPAI
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LUCKNOW DIARY

High Swachh score, low on citizens' confidence

Lucknow may have got a fair score in the Swachh Survekshan 2020 but discontent is palpable among citizens. While Lucknow Municipal Corporation has got the 12th rank in the survey out of 47 cities with a population above 10 lakh, it is far from enjoying people's confidence. Nearly one-fourth of the citizens who voted in the cleanliness survey were not happy with the civic body's works. The rankings were based on four parameters-direct observation, citizen feedback, service level progress, and open defecation-free (ODF) certification. Lucknow secured 79% points in the four categories.

One lakh recite Hanuman Chalisa, create record

In a bid to give mental strength to people affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, one lakh people from 60 countries, including India, recited the *Hanuman Chalisa* simultaneously for 70 minutes on Independence Day to create a world record. The online event, organised by US-based organisation SiliconAndhra, was led by Swami Anand Giri, the chhote mahant of Prayagraj's Bade Hanuman temple. Separate groups were formed through Zoom for the event. The Guinness Book of World Records team watched the event online and awarded the certificate, terming the attempt as successful and a new world record. Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and MoS (Home) G Kishan Reddy also attended the event online.

Online 'majlis' on this Muharram

After holding several rounds of talks, Lucknow finally will witness 60-minute online 'majlis' (sermon narrating the tragedy of Karbala) at seven imambaras of the city by prominent Shia clerics. The permission was only for 60-minute online majlis at seven imambaras which can be attended by a cleric and five other persons. Organisers will be held responsible if Covid-19 health and safety protocols are overlooked. The imambaras which have traditionally been holding sermons are Imambara Agha Baqar, Imambara Ghufranmaab, majlis at Shia College Nakkhas branch, Imambara Afzal Mahal, Imambara Nazim Sahab, Madrassa Nazmiya and Maqbara Saadat Ali Khan at Parivartan Chowk. There should be no communal statements and all rituals should be held within constitutional parameters.

Ganesh as the destroyer of coronavirus

The coronavirus pandemic has hit the Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations this tear, but the Lord has appeared in many avatars across the city. While last year, over 100 pandals for Ganesh Puja were set up but large gatherings are not allowed this time. Struggling to make a living due to the situation, many artisans feel that they have to think differently to sell their products. Some have depicted Lord Ganesha as saviour and a destroyer of the deadly virus. Some have also portrayed him as the protector of Ladakh from evil forces. Others show him as the God of prosperity, some as blessing everyone for development.

13 people died in a stampede at a disco in Peru amid a police raid to enforce the country's lockdown during the pandemic, officials said on Sunday

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower

Beijing	31	20	LC	Los Angeles	29	19	SNY
Colombo	31	25	HR	Melbourne	11	03	LC
Dhaka	33	26	LC	Moscow	22	13	LR
Dubai	41	30	SNY	New York	31	22	LC
Houston	35	25	SNY	Singapore	31	25	HR
Istanbul	30	20	SNY	Toronto	30	19	SNY
London	20	10	LR	Washington	31	22	HR

House passes $25 bn for US Post

More than two dozen Republicans backed the bill, but it is expected to fail in GOP-led Senate

WASHINGTON

THE US House of Representatives passed a bill on Saturday to give the postal service a $25 billion infusion and halt changes Democrats said that threatened the millions of mail-in ballots expected in November's presidential election.

The 257-to-150 vote, largely along party lines in the Democratic-led chamber, came as President Donald Trump called the legislation "another HOAX by the Democrats... without talking about the Universal Mail-In Ballot Scam that they are trying to pull off."

The bill is expected to die in the Republican-led Senate, with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell calling it a"partisan stunt."

An elderly protester showing support to US Postal Service in Salt Lake City | AP

Americans are expected to vote by mail in massive numbers due to the coronavirus pandemic, but Trump has opposed more funding for the cash-strapped US Postal Service (USPS), acknowledging the money would be used to help process ballots.

Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, a Republican fundraiser who Trump appointed to head the postal service in May, has presided over the removal of mail collection boxes and processing equipment. He has also overseen a cut in overtime pay for mail carriers, which a union leader told *AFP* has slowed delivery times nationwide, and reshuffled senior management.

The postal service has warned most states that it could not guarantee on-time delivery of mail-in ballots.

Kevin McCarthy, the top House Republican, accused Democrats of "wasting precious time spreading Speaker Pelosi's mailbox myths," contending that the USPS was properly funded and could handle even 150 million ballots.

DeJoy testified before Congress on Friday, denying allegations that recent changes at USPS were designed to slow down election mail, calling them "outrageous." *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS

PAKISTAN

Former-PM Sharif declared 'absconder'

The Pakistan government has declared former prime minister Nawaz Sharif, currently in London for treatment, an 'absconder' and approached the UK government for his extradition. Adviser to the PM on Accountability and Interior Shahzad Akbar said that Sharif's four-week bail on medical grounds expired in December last year. "The government is treating him (Sharif) as an absconder and has already sent a request to the British government to extradite him," Akbar was quoted as saying by the *Dawn News*. Sharif is currently in London for treatment after the Lahore High Court granted him four-week permission to go abroad for treatment in November last year

SINGAPORE

New Covid-19 cluster in country's biggest dormitory

A new Covid-19 cluster has been reported in Singapore's biggest dormitory housing foreign workers, including Indian nationals, about a month after it was declared to be fully cleared of the coronavirus. Two of the new cases were linked to 55 previous cases to form a new cluster at Sungei Tengah Lodge dormitory at 500 Old Choa Chu Kang Road

INDONESIA

Sinabung volcano spews new burst of hot ash

A rumbling volcano in western Indonesia on Sunday unleashed an avalanche of scorching clouds down its slopes. Authorities are closely monitoring Mount Sinabung on Sumatra after sensors picked up increasing activity in past weeks. The volcano in North Sumatra province was shooting smoke and ash more than 1,000 metres into the air on Sunday morning, and hot ash clouds travelled 1 kilometre southeast, Indonesia's Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation Center said

TikTok takes legal route to take on POTUS over US crackdown on app

NEW YORK

TIKTOK on Saturday said it will challenge in court a Trump administration crackdown on the popular Chinese-owned platform, which Washington accuses of being a national security threat.

As tensions soar between the world's two biggest economies, President Donald Trump signed an executive order on August 6 giving Americans 45 days to stop doing business with TikTok's Chinese parent company ByteDance — effectively setting a deadline for a potential pressured sale of the app to a US company.

"To ensure that the rule of law is not discarded and that our company and users are treated fairly, we have no choice but to challenge the executive order through the judicial system," TikTok said.

"Even though we strongly disagree with the administration's concerns, for nearly a year we have sought to engage in good faith to provide a constructive solution," it said.

"What we encountered instead was a lack of due process as the administration paid no attention to facts and tried to insert itself into negotiations between private businesses."

ByteDance said in a separate statement that the suit would be filed on Monday, US time.

WeChat users to sue prez

Some US-based users of WeChat are suing President Donald Trump in a bid to block an executive order that they say would effectively bar access in the US to the popular Chinese messaging app.

The complaint, filed in San Francisco, is being brought by the nonprofit US WeChat Users Alliance and several people who say they rely on the app for work, worship and staying in touch with relatives in China. The plaintiffs asked a federal court judge to stop the order from being enforced, claiming it would violate users' freedom of speech, free exercise of religion and other rights. *Agencies*

GOP uses Modi-Don bonhomie vids to woo desis

WASHINGTON

AIMING to woo the influential Indian-American voters numbering over 2 million, the Trump campaign has released its first video commercial that has short clips from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speeches and US President Donald Trump's historic address in Ahmedabad.

Modi and Trump addressed a huge crowd in Ahmedabad during the US president's visit to India in February this year. Trump was also accompanied by his wife Melania, daughter Ivanka, son-in-law Jared Kushner and top brass of his administration on his trip to India.

"America enjoys a great relationship with India and our campaign enjoys great support from Indian-Americans!" Kimberly Guilfoyle, national chair of Trump Victory Finance Committee said in a tweet releasing the video commercial.

US President Donald Trump and Indian PM Narendra Modi at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas (Sept 22, 2019) | AFP

Titled *Four More Years* the 107-second video starts with the iconic footage of Modi and Trump walking hand in hand at the NRG Stadium in Houston during the prime minister's visit to the US last year wherein the leaders of the world's two largest democracies made a joint address before a strong crowd of Indian-Americans numbering more than 50,000.

"He is the president of the United States of America Mr Donald Trump", Modi says at the start of the video, that has been conceptualised by Al Mason, co-chair of the Trump Victory Indian American Finance Committee.

The commercial comes following a research by Mason in battleground States according to which the Indian-Americans, who traditionally vote for the Democrats, are switching over to the Republican party in significant numbers because the friendship that Trump has with Modi and the latter's high popularity among a large section of the community, of which 2.5 million are eligible to vote. *PTI*

US PREZ TO PAY $44,100 IN STORMY DANIELS LEGAL FEES

LOS ANGELES: A California court ordered US President Donald Trump this week to pay $44,100 in attorney fees to adult actress Stormy Daniels to pay for her legal battle over her effort to cancel a hush money deal brokered to keep her quiet about their sexual relationship a decade ago. The order in Superior Court in Los Angeles determined Daniels won her lawsuit against Trump over the agreement that was signed 11 days before the 2016 presidential election. As a part of that deal, the losing party would pay the lawyers' fees. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the decision. The president's personal lawyer at the time, Michael Cohen, paid $1,30,000 to Daniels, who filed the suit under her legal name Stephanie Clifford. After Trump's election, Daniels sued to void the agreement. *AP*

Trump's sister calls him 'cruel' in secret audio

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump's older sister described the US president as cruel and a liar whose lack of principles meant he could not be trusted, according to secretly made recordings published on Saturday. It was the latest unflattering insider account to target the president, only instead of a jilted aide or business associate, it was from one of his closest relatives.

Maryanne Trump Barry, a former federal judge, slammed her brother over his immigration policy that saw children separated from their parents at the border and sent to detention centres.

"All he wants to do is appeal to his base," she said in recordings obtained by the *Washington Post*. "He has no principles. None."

"His goddamned tweet and lying, oh my God."

The recordings were secretly made by the president's niece Mary Trump, who published last month a bombshell memoir of the "toxic family" that produced him.

Donald Trump pictured with his sister Maryanne Trump Barry | AFP

At one point in the recordings, Barry said to her niece: "It's the phoniness of it all. It's the phoniness and this cruelty. Donald is cruel."

The recordings also shed light on the source of an embarrassing claim in the memoir that the president paid someone to take a college entrance exam for him.

In response, the White House released a statement from Trump that said: "Every day it's something else, who cares. I miss my brother, and I'll continue to work hard for the American people. Not everyone agrees, but the results are obvious. Our country will soon be stronger than ever before!" *AFP*

LONDON BRIDGE PULLED-UP

The historic Tower Bridge failed to close on Saturday after opening to allow ships to pass underneath on the River Thames. The malfunction left traffic in chaos and was closed to pedestrians. The 800-feet long bridge was built between 1886-94 | AP

Protesters up the ante, ask Lukashenko to step down

MINSK

MORE than 1,00,000 protesters demanding the resignation of Belarus' authoritarian president rallied on Sunday in a vast square in the capital, keeping up the massive outburst of dissent that has shaken the country since a disputed presidential election two weeks ago.

Sunday's demonstration overflowed Minsk's sprawling 17-acre Independence Square. There were no official figures on crowd size, but it appeared to be 1,50,000 people or more.

Dozens of police prisoner transport vehicles were parked on the fringes, but police made no immediate efforts to break up the gathering. Earlier this month, some 7,000 people were arrested, many of them beaten with clubs or wounded by rubber bullets, in the protests after the August 9 election that officials say handed President Alexander Lukashenko a sixth term in office.

Opposition supporters protest against disputed elections results in Minsk | AFP

Protesters say the official election results, in which Lukashenko reportedly received 80 per cent of the vote, are fraudulent.

The size and duration of the protests are unprecedented for Belarus, a former Soviet republic of 9.5 million people that Lukashenko ruled with an iron fist for 26 years. The 65-year-old appears to be flailing about for a strategy to counter them.

"Belarus has changed. Lukashenko has been able to unify everybody, from workers to intelligentsia, in the demand for change," said protester Slava Chirkov, who attended Sunday's demonstration with his wife and son.

They held a sign declaring "Lukashenko, your milk has gone sour," referencing Lukashenko's former job as the director of a Soviet-era collective farm.

Lukashenko's main election challenger, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, fled to Lithuania the day after the election. Several other possible challengers fled the country even before the election. *AP*

Black boxes reveal pilots alive after missile hit Ukraine jet, says Iran

TEHRAN

THE black boxes of a Ukrainian airliner mistakenly downed in Tehran have revealed the pilots were still alive after the first of two missiles hit the plane, Iranian officials said Sunday.

Flight 752, a Ukraine International Airlines passenger jet, crashed shortly after taking off from Tehran's main airport on January 8.

Iran admitted days later that its forces accidentally shot down the Kiev-bound Boeing 737-800 aircraft, killing all 176 people on board.

Tehran's air defences had been on high alert at the time in case the US retaliated against Iranian strikes hours earlier on American troops stationed in Iraq. The head of Iran's civil aviation authority on Sunday revealed for the first time what was on the black boxes, which had been sent to France for analysis.

(File photo) Debris of the Ukrainian plane which was shot down in Iran | AP

Touraj Dehghani Zanganeh said that the cockpit voice recorder registered a conversation between the pilot, co-pilot and an instructor between the two blasts.

"Up to 19 seconds after the first missile exploded in the vicinity of the aircraft, (they) noticed abnormal conditions and were in control of the aircraft until the last moment," he said, quoted by state television's website.

"The instructor indicates that the aircraft has an electronic problem and the auxiliary power has been activated," he said. "The pilots were notified that both engines of the aircraft were on."

The black boxes stopped working 19 seconds after the first explosion, making it impossible to retrieve data on the impact of the second missile, he said. Analysis on the "effect of the second missile cannot be obtained from the black boxes," said Zanganeh. *AFP*

US faces back-to-school laptop shortage

Schools across the US are facing shortages and long delays of up to several months in getting this year's most crucial back-to-school supplies — laptops and other equipment needed for online learning

5 MN SHORT

- The world's three biggest computer companies, Lenovo, HP and Dell, have told school districts they have a shortage of nearly 5 million laptops
- US sanctions on Chinese suppliers worsened the situation, according to schools

This is going to be like asking an artist to paint a picture without paint. You can't have a kid do distance learning without a computer

Tom Baumgarten, superintendent of the Morongo Unified School District in California

DELAYS CREATING ISSUES

- Delays in delivering laptops started in the spring and intensified because of high demand and disruptions of supply chains
- However, Trump administration's July 20 announcement targeting Chinese companies will add several weeks to existing delays
- School districts are pleading with the administration to resolve the issue, saying that distance learning without laptops will amount to no learning for some of the country's most vulnerable students

MANY SCHOOLS HIT

- There are no nationwide tallies on the numbers of laptops and other devices that schools are waiting for
- But shortages and backorders are affecting school districts in more than 15 states

3L BACKORDERED COMPUTERS

- A recent poll of California's 1,100 districts showed schools across the state are waiting on at least 3,00,000 backordered computers, said Mary Nicely, a senior policy advisor to the state superintendent

SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES

- Lenovo had customers months ago of supply chain delays
- In July, it sent a letter to say the Commerce Department's "trade controls" would cause another slowdown
- The letter listed 23 Lenovo models made by their Chinese supplier, Hefei Bitland Information Technology Co. Ltd.

$535.25 bn After rising for the past few weeks, the country's foreign exchange reserves declined by $2.939 billion for the week ended August 14, showed RBI data

POLICY TALK

Unravelling the Retirement Fund Maze

ASHOK KUMAR

MS DHONI, a fine cricketer and the Indian cricket team's best captain in the white ball format announced his retirement from international cricket a little over a week ago. Around a decade and a half of international cricket along with the likelihood of continuing earnings from the IPL and endorsement deals ought to have ensured that his financial future is more than secure. But, what about his legions of fans in this country? Is their life, post retirement likely to be financially secure?

It is worth noting that over the last six decades, the life expectancy of Indians has risen to around to 69 years from just 41years, as per World Bank data tabled in 2017. Unless this trend reverses, chances are, present-day Indians will have an even longer life expectancy.

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
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The insurance industry in India was off the blocks with their pension plans and the mutual fund industry in India too discerned this trend and there is now, no dearth of retirement fund schemes on offer from various Asset Management Companies (AMCs). Besides these, there is of course the Government backed National Pension Scheme (NPS).

The early retirement funds that were launched by the mutual fund industry offered a mix of debt and equity and required investors to be locked in till a pre- determined retirement rate and imposed heavy exit loads on those seeking to bail out early. To buttress the deal, an investment in these schemes made one eligible for a tax deduction under Section 80C of the Income Tax Act.

SEBI then categorized these funds and standardized the lock-in period to five years or till a pre-specified retirement age, whichever is earlier. While categorization was fine in principle, the carte blanche offered to the AMCs ensured that that any comparative analysis of the funds offered in this category was rendered redundant.

Each AMC followed its own dynamics and made multiple sub-categories of offerings with very different asset allocation plans, ostensibly to cater to different age and income groups. But then, isn't that true of every category of funds, where only one offering per category is permitted?

If the investor had the wherewithal to select between the subcategories based on asset allocation patterns, then wouldn't it be easier for that investor to select the appropriate mix of equity and debt mutual funds? Notably, the latter category has a much longer track-record and being open-ended offers ample opportunity for nimble footed re-balancing where required.

Some of the AMCs offering retirement funds include Axis, Tata, UTI, ICICI, HDFC, Nippon India and Franklin India. There are select funds within this category that have performed satisfactorily but in the absence of uniformity, it requires expertise to discern which one has performed best, in line with an investor's objectives.

To summarize, if one is selecting retirement funds from AMCs as their retirement vehicle, they would do well to seek expert advise to navigate through its maze.

Franklin limits inflows into 3 fund-of-funds schemes

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

STARTING August 18, asset management company (AMC) Frankling Templeton placed restrictions on the amount of investment that investors could make in three of its fund of funds (FoF) schemes. All three had been exposed to a few of the six debt schemes that the AMC has been forced to wind up — even as litigation related to these funds continue.

A company spokesperson explained that this was a means to curb the number of arbitrage opportunities that new investors in the fund will have, protecting existing investors' investments.

From now, investors cannot buy units for more than ₹2 lakh per day in Franklin India Dynamic Asset Allocation (FIDA), ₹1 lakh in Franklin India Multi Asset Solution (FIMAS), ₹50,000 in the 20's Plan and 40s Plan of Franklin India Life stage (FILS) and ₹25,000 in the 30s Plan and 50's Plus Plan of Franklin India Life Stage.

These curbs have been made applicable to all fresh and additional purchases from lump-sums to SIPs or STPs. According to the firm, the limits also apply for all purchases across investor folios and plans of schemes based on the Permanent Account Number of the investor. However, existing SIPs and STPs and redemptions from these schemes will remain unaffected. All three FoFs had been impacted significantly by the winding up of the six Franklin debt funds. In fact, their net asset value had been shaved off by a half in order to reflect the illiquidity of their exposure to these debt funds.

RAJAS KELKAR

WATCH OUT FOR THE RISKS TO YOUR MONEY

This year has been the one when the risk has ruled like never before; If inflation concerns stay, further relief in interest rates is unlikely

YOUR wealth is fundamentally linked to interest rates. In a world where interest rates are near-zero in developed countries, risks are likely to emerge from other things. It would be best if you connected the dots to understand the implication on your money.

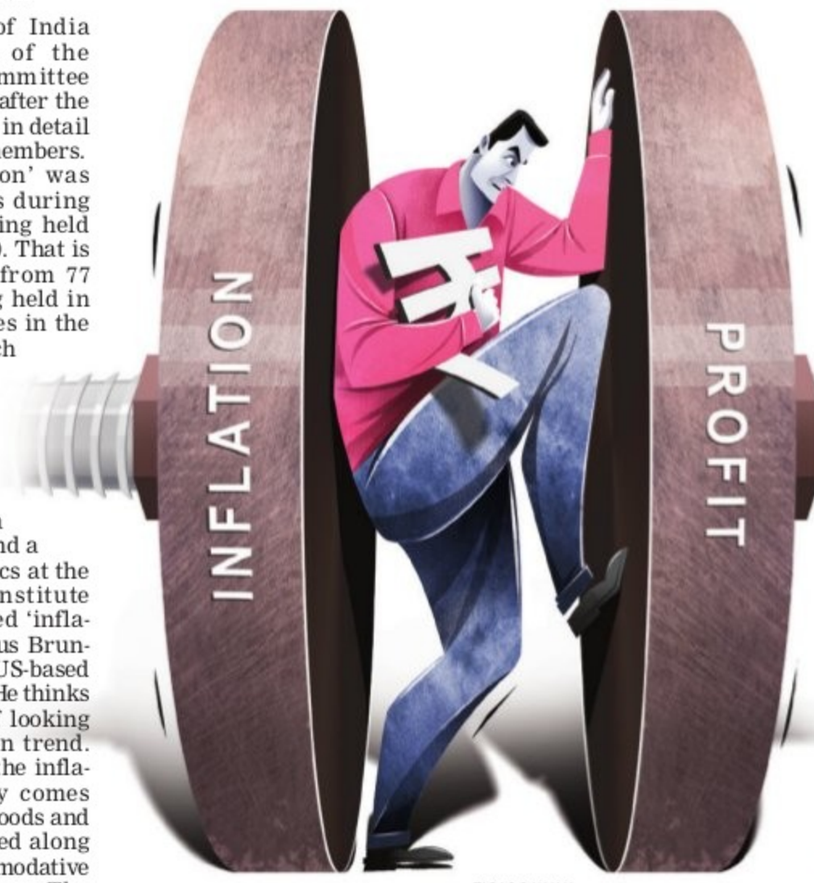
Uncertainty of inflation

The Reserve Bank of India publishes minutes of the monetary policy committee meeting a few weeks after the meeting. It lays down in detail views of committee members.

The term 'inflation' was mentioned 147 times during the committee meeting held earlier in August 2020. That is a significant jump from 77 times in the meeting held in May 2020 and 49 times in the meeting held in March 2020. It also highlights the prime concern of the committee and why interest rates were left untouched.

Chetan Ghate, a committee member and a professor of economics at the Indian Statistical Institute quotes a phrase called 'inflation whipsaw'. Markus Brunnermeir coined it at US-based Princeton University. He thinks that is a better way of looking at the future inflation trend. The upside push for the inflation in the economy comes from rising costs of goods and services manufactured along with the RBI's 'accommodative monetary policy stance. The RBI takes an accommodative stance to ensure that high-interest rates do not stall economic growth. But the risk to inflation remains from food supply shocks across the country. A lot of supply chain has got disrupted as a result of lockdowns in different parts of the country.

The downside pressure on inflation is due to what he calls 'the paradox of thrift'. He argues that consumers may be forced to save more due to lockdowns, and that could be a potential disinflationary force. He believes that the demand for goods and services could drop, leading to a fall in inflation.



TAPAS RANJAN

When such a situation exists, we have a mixed trend in financial markets. Investors do not like uncertainty. The year so far has been the one when the risk has ruled like never before. It is unprecedented that the Reserve Bank of India's committee has not given any growth and inflation outlook in the monetary policy statement for three meetings in a row. That is perhaps a record.

Uncertainty of profits

In the quarter to June 2020, many large businesses refrained from giving any guidance on the future order book, citing uncertainty. We will look at one significant company example to understand the play of such a change in the market.

Larsen and Toubro, the engineering conglomerate, skipped the 'order book' guidance for the first time in a decade. Investors look forward to the direction to understand the impact of future revenue and profit. The company is witnessing a slowdown in the execution of orders. The management told investors after the quarterly results that it has not seen any major infrastructure project being cancelled. The company expects to benefit out of the government plan to the executive over ₹100 lakh crore worth of infrastructure projects. Share prices move along with the profits of businesses.

Any uncertainty ahead could lead to a negative trend in the stock market.

However, investors could look at the Larsen & Toubro situation as both an opportunity and a risk. That is reflected in the price performance of the company. Over the past year, L&T shares have shed a quarter of the value. That is even after the recovery of 23 per cent over the past three months. That shows how badly the market beat down L&T shares at the start of the lockdown.

What it means to your money

If inflation concerns stay high, businesses will not get further relief in interest rates. Low-interest rates are needed to boost new expenditure by companies. The strange situation in the market where inflation faces upward and downward pressure at the same time means gold would continue to be used as a hedge by investors. The uncertainty has created a situation where stock prices and gold prices are going up at the same time. In addition to that, the extent of the impact of the lock-down on the economy is yet to unravel.

EXPRESS READ

Govt frames 'rules of origin' norms for imports

New Delhi: The government has come out with norms for the enforcement of 'rules of origin' provisions for allowing preferential rate of customs duties on products imported under free trade agreements. The new norms have been framed with a view to checking inbound shipments of low quality products and dumping of goods routed through FTA. The Department of Revenue has notified the 'Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020' which would "come into force on September 21, 2020"

'Secure your family's future with a term insurance'

ARSHAD KHAN

IN times like these, when the world is riddled with Covid-induced challenges, a comprehensive term insurance policy is a must-have, says **Prashant Tripathy,** managing director and chief executive officer at Max Life Insurance. In an interaction with *TNIE*, Tripathy speaks at length why it is worthwhile to consider investments in guaranteed saving products to secure a family's future, major changes in the insurance sector and more. Excerpts:

What are the key things people should consider before taking up a policy in uncertain times?

In times like these, life insurance becomes an effective financial planning tool that provides multiple benefits ranging from protection, savings and guaranteed returns to tax benefits. When purchasing a life insurance policy, it is important to choose a plan that meets your requirements. At the same time, while taking up a policy is to select the right sum assured on the basis of current earning and future potential.

A comprehensive term insurance policy is a must-have for almost everyone. It is also worthwhile to consider investments in guaranteed saving products.

How many Covid-related claims have you received so far? What are the key things you look at before settling these claims?

We have received 166 admissible Covid-19 death claims till August 19, 2020 and we have paid 138 such claims already with a claim amount of ₹8.91 crore. For settling these claims, we are following a speedy settlement process once we receive mandatory documents. We are taking various steps to reach out to customers through alternate digital modes like SMS, WhatsApp, video calling with claimants. We have also also requested claimants to submit complete medical records to enable us to settle claims as soon as possible.

Is your company offering products at comfortable T&C that cover mental and critical illness?

Our recent 'India Protection Quotient Express' survey revealed that when confronted by the thought that Covid-19 could prey on the individual and/or family, 31 per cent respondents in metros and 20 per cent in Tier 1 cities said they bought a life insurance with Covid-19/critical illness rider. This suggests that consumers are increasingly banking on life insurers for assurance in times of uncertainty, and insurance companies.

At Max Life, we are offering riders and optional benefits which provide insurance against certain defined critical illnesses. For new life insurance policies, an applicant with mental illness is appropriately underwritten. We are also in the process of addressing the core needs of customers with our new policies specific to the post Covid-19 era.

AT-HOME

SBI introduces pilot doorstep ATM service

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced a new doorstep ATM service which will allow its customers to withdraw cash without having to leave their homes.

According to the bank's announcement last week, all customers need to do is send a WhatssApp message or make a call to the designated SBI number, and a mobile ATM will reach their location. However, the service is currently a pilot project offered to SBI customers in Lucknow, with Ajay Kumar Khanna, Chief General Manager, SBI stating that if the project receives good feedback, it will be implemented in other cities too.

An official statement said that this is a move focused in giving some respite to customers who are "maintaining social distancing" during the pandemic. These doorstep banking service include cash pickup, cash delivery, cheque pickup, cheque requisition slip pickup, form 15H pickup, delivery of drafts and KYC documents pickup, among others.

Forced savings see a spike as households tweak spending habits

BINITA JAISWAL @ Chennai

INCOME NOT SPENT

- Net financial assets of households rose to 7.7 per cent of the GDP in FY'20
- Salary and job cuts have taught families to curtail unnecessary expenses

THE coronavirus pandemic has taught crucial life lessons to many. But what Debadutta Mohanty has learnt during the lockdown changed his life and helped him to leverage his financial condition. Mohanty, who works as an IT official in an MNC in Chennai, used to spend half of his salary on food and travel. However, as restaurants were shut during the lockdown and with no option available to eat outside, Mohanty started exploring his cooking skills with the help of Youtube and other social media platforms. And soon, the 28-year-old realised that cooking, which started as a survival measure, has helped him to double his monthly savings.

"I used to spend almost ₹12,000-₹15,000 towards food every month. Now as I am working from home, I have ample time to cook food, and in turn, my fuel cost could be saved. These habits have reduced my expenses significantly and I am now able to save a major chunk," he said.

Similarly, Mehar Agarwal, who works with an advertising agency in Delhi, during her work from home stint realised that she was wasting a lot of money on shopping.

"Every weekend I used to visit malls for entertainment and spent money on movies, and then on clothes and accessories. With nowhere to go, not even office, I realised that I was hoarding so many clothes and learnt that if I am a little vigilant towards, I can save ₹20,000 a month," said 30-year-old woman.

Even experts are of the view that the pandemic-led work from home culture has led to forced savings. "The change in lifestyle after the Covid-19 outbreak has left a positive impact on the financial thinking of many. Now people have realised the real difference between 'need' and 'want' and they are able to save more by paring down their discretionary expenses," said Chennai-based wealth advisor, V Somasundaram. If these habits stay put, savings will increase further.

NEW VERTICAL

National Insurance offers BVLOS drone insurance

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

DRONES, or unmanned aircrafts, are becoming increasingly popular and it is mandatory to buy third-party liability insurance in India for drones flown on a private as well as commercial basis.

While policies have been rolled out by private insurers for commercial owners, there is no defined product for the most talked about concept in the industry — Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS).

In an industry-first initiative, state-run general insurer National Insurance has launched BVLOS insurance coverage, which has been exclusively designed for the consortiums selected by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to conduct 100 hours of BVLOS test flights in a pre-defined airspace. The insurance has been issued to Asteria Aerospace, a manufacturer and operator of unmanned aerial vehicles through Itus Insurance Brokers utilizing deep-tech start-up TropoGo Platform. The insurance coverage will safeguard the risk of any loss or damage to third-party due to any accident during the test flights. Besides Asteria, the company said it will also be providing similar coverage to the DunzoAir consortium.

"We have been seeing increasing drone adoption in the last few months, be it Covid-19 control, Amphan disaster management or locusts control. We also see BVLOS operations to further accelerate the innovation especially for medicine delivery and in agriculture in the coming years," Shubhankar Pain, chief regional manager of National Insurance, said.

So far, DGCA has approved 20 drone consortia including Asteria Aerospace for conducting BVLOS Drone trials in a sandboxed environment.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

KEC INTERNATIONAL

Current Price ₹318.85

Target Price ₹375

KEC is steadily diversifying its business to avoid concentration risk from the Power T&D business, with Railways/ Civil segment emerging as strong growth avenues. We believe the company has all ingredients in place for growth over the next 3-5 years. We are positive on account of earnings upgrade of 6%/9% for FY21/FY22E, and rising target multiple in line with long-term average.

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *TNIE*

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

BFC take left-back from Chennai City

Bengaluru FC have signed 23-year-old Ajith Kumar on an undisclosed fee from Chennai City FC, the club announced on Saturday. The left-back joins Carles Cuadrat's side on a three-year deal. The 2020-21 ISL season is scheduled to start in Goa in November.

'APPLIED ONLY AFTER FRIEND INSISTED'

Six-time Winter Olympian & Arjuna **Shiva Keshavan**, in a chat with **Indraneel Das**, lifts lid on travails of life in lesser known sports

Shiva Keshavan's career seems to be an antithesis to the sport he pursues. It's simple, the sport of luge is perhaps one of the fastest on the planet but the recognition and rewards he has managed to get has been slow in comparison. The Arjuna Award is perhaps an apt reflection. He was nominated in 2012 but finally selected in 2020. Keshavan, however, still finds reason to laugh and cling on to his unique blend of character – belief and unflinching devotion to the sport.

Every time Keshavan is in the news, luge as a sport too is heard. Every google search on luge would throw up Keshavan's name — the two are inseparable in an Indian context. The athlete, who turns 38 on August 25, used wooden sleds and hurtled through inclined roads in Manali, his hometown. On August 29 when he gets his Arjuna Awards, he could be a rare winter sports athlete in India to be conferred with this award. His CV is impressive too. He is a six-time Winter Olympian, as well as the Asian record holder in 2011. In an informal chat with this paper, he explains the background of applying for the award this year and its importance. Excerpts:

Did you think you should have got the Arjuna award in 2012?

This has happened. It is a long struggle for recognition not just for myself but much bigger than myself — long struggle of recognition for the whole of winter sports. There are so many athletes and as a movement, winter sports is huge. We are completely ignored so I am immensely happy.

Actually, I never ran after awards, never in my whole career. When I was nominated and did not receive it, yes, I was disheartened. I never campaigned for anything. The only year I had won my gold medal at 2011 Asian championships, the federation had nominated me but that federation was not recognized. That was in 2012. It went nowhere and in fact today also none of the winter sports federations are recognized.

Only thing that changed was that due to Covid-19, the ministry had opened up entry through self application. I initially was not going to apply but then a friend of mine told me that 'they have opened up for self-nomination you should apply otherwise tomorrow you cannot say that diya nahi (did not give)'. So I said 'ok let's do this'. I applied and wrote to the Olympic Association of India (IOA) and wrote to the Sports Authority of India (SAI) that I have applied and left it at that.

All of a sudden, few days back I get a call saying that 'your nomination has been accepted'. I was surprised. At the same time, happy and at the same time not sure whether to celebrate because it might get cancelled again. Something could have happened so it was quite interesting for a couple of days. This opens a lot of doors for the future of winter sports.

Q&A

You wrote to SAI and the IOA. They were happy to accept your nomination?

Once I completed my time as an active athlete, I reached out to all these sports organizations and I told them that I wanted to work for the betterment of winter sports. Now the problem is that when you are an athlete, you see all. I had a very tough experience as an athlete dealing with many sports organisations because it is not an easy job to deal with the officials to make your plans and to fight for your funding. And you need the organization in place. I recognised that now so I want to be that shield, that can shield the athletes from direct involvement and be the person who stands up for the athletes and fight for winter sports facilities... things like that because the federation can't do anything against the other people but only against the athletes. That is a role that I want to get into.

ILLUSTRATION: AMIT BANDRE

There are no ski slopes. Everything is haphazard. There are no cured slopes. Once you have a proper high performance centre, that can serve as a hub for winter sport. Even elite sportpersons can come for high altitude training

Future plan

There are a few plans. First of all I have been nominated as the high performance director in luge federation. It is just a nominal post but I have used that in my official capacity to submit a long term development plan for the sport and to create number of athletes, talent scout camps and the elite programmes. So I have made up this plan for the winter federation but we still have to overcome the hurdles.

We need to get all the winter sports federation recognised by the ministry. That will help the sport get funding for training of athletes etc. Once that comes through, we will have a budget and then we will be able to implement the development programmes.

On academy...

Yes, I have got some plans for high performance training centres. There are quite a few high performance centres for summer sports but nothing for winter sports. And for mountain sports in general. I think time is right for states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Ladakh and even the North East to develop this as a full scale industry. I have plans for this. I have been promoting and talking about it. After Arjuna, this might be taken more seriously.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Azhar unbeaten 141, Jimmy 598

AFP @ Southampton

PAKISTAN captain Azhar Ali hit an unbeaten 141 but his team was all out for 273, handing England a lead of 310 on Day 3 of the third and final Test against England. It was Ali's 17th century in Test cricket. Mohammed Rizwan made 53. With a lead of 310 runs, it's up to the home team to decide if they are to impose the follow-on or bat a second time. James Anderson took five for 56 to take his Test tally to 598 wickets. England lead the series 1-0. Barring Azhar and Rizwan, no one from Pakistan could cross 25 in another tale ofcollapse.

Brief scores: Eng 583/8 decl vs Pak 273 (Azhar 141 n.o, Rizwan 53 ; Anderson 4/42).

CLOSER TO RESTART

Delhi Capitals captain Shreyas Iyer on arrival in Dubai on Sunday. All eight IPL teams have reached the UAE ahead of the 13th edition | DC MEDIA

Youth connect in India's last-8 move

ATREYO MUKHOPADHYAY @ Chennai

AFTER setback, came the high. Dealt a blow in the sixth-round draw with lowly Mongolia, India bounced back in contention in the Online Chess Olympiad on Sunday, reaching the quarterfinals with wins over Georgia, Germany and China. Only the group toppers secure direct last-8 berths. India, Azerbaijan, Russia and USA claimed those.

India's challenge on the last day of pool matches was overcoming Saturday's disappointment as well as strong opponents, especially from Georgia and China. Viswanathan Anand didn't play after drawing against his Georgian rival in the first match of the day. That India still pulled it off was due largely to the youngsters.

Playing on boards reserved for under-20 players, R Praggnanandhaa and Divya Deshmukh registered decisive wins against Georgia and China. In both matches, results of the other four boards games were equal for two teams. Effectively, wins posted by Praggnanandhaa and Divya tilted the balance in India's favour. Results were 4-2 against Georgia, 4.5-1.5 against Germany and 4-2 against China. Victory against the Chinese was special, considering that they had beaten India on way to the title in the Online Nations Cup two months ago,

"Youngsters posted critical wins, which is thrilling to see. This was important after yesterday's mishap (losing games following disruptions in power supply and internet connection). They delivered when the situation demanded. This win was not just about them, but the whole team. (Pentala) Harikrishna played all three games today, (Dronavalli) Harika did well with black pieces. Even the reserves contributed wins. It shows that this team has a lot of depth," said captain Vidit Gujrathi.

This performance is notable also because of the fact that Anand played just four games out of a possible nine. The former world champ, who has not been at his best of late, drew three and lost one of those. So it is evident that the rest came together and delivered without a lot of contribution from the best player of the team. "After play in the evenings, we chat together and see how we have done and what we can do. Combinations are chosen according to the strength of the opposition. It's great to have Anand in those discussions. I take his advice on a lot of things. The final six is chosen on strategic grounds, considering what the team has to against a particular opposition," said Gujrathi, who himself has sat out on three occasions.

There were no fresh complaints on the power and internet front, although the players have apparently turned down the federation's offer to play from star hotels in their cities.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್, ರಾಯಚೂರು
ಸಂ/ಜಿಪಂರಾ/ಮಮಅಇ/ಅಂ.ಕೇಂ/ಪ.ಪು/ಮುದ್ರಣ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/2020-21 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17-08-2020

SHORT TIME RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION ::
(Through E-Procurement Portal)

As per the Orders of The Chief Executive Officer Zilla Panchayath, Raichur It is required to Print Text Books and Behalf of Zilla Panchayath Raichur for Women and Child Development Dept 2621 Anganwadi's And 41 Mini Anganwadi Centers i.e total of 2662 anganwadi Centers to Provide Pre School education for use of Children and Anganwadi workers for the Year 2020-21. Therefore, Tenders are called from the eligible Printers. The Details of the e-tender can be filled online and Submitted from the date:17-08-2020 in the e procurement portal.The online Application can be uploaded upto 02-09-2020 Evening 5.30 pm The Technical Bid will be Opened on 03-09-2020 and Financial bid will be opened on 07-09-2020 before the Designated Authority
For Further Details Contact http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Raichur

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Reseaarch Centre
Mysuru

CORRIGENDUM

Reference is invited to Tender No.BARC/MYS/ADMIN/07/2020 for the contract work "Various works at CISF Barrack (Supply of Cook, Barber, Washerman & Helper), CISF Unit, RMP, Mysuru".

The last date and time for submission of the the Tender through online has been **extended till 28/08/2020, 1500 hrs.**

All other terms and conditions of Notice inviting tender remains unchanged.

Sd/-
Chief Administrative Officer
For & on behalf of the President of India

FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY
P.O. I.P.E. Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun-248195 (Uttarakhand)
(Under Sec 3 of the UGC Act 1956)
(vide Notification N. F.9-25/89-U.3 dated 06.12.1991)

TEMPORARY/ CONTRACTUAL POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Director, FRI & Vice Chancellor, FRI Deemed to be University, Dehradun invites applications for online **walk-in-interview** for the Position of one Junior Consultant (Wood Science & Technology). The notification containing Applications Form, Eligibility Criteria, Educational Qualification, Age Limit and Remuneration etc. is available on website **www.fridu.edu.in** & **www.fri.res.in**. The online Walk-in-Interview for the post of Junior Consultant (Wood Science & Technology will be held on 18th Sept., 2020 from 10.30 A.M. on the link to be provided by **Registrar, FRI Deemed to be University, Dehradun**. Interested & eligible candidates must submit duly filled application by 11th Sept., 2020 (5:30 P.M.) alongwith application fee of **Rs. 1000/-** on e-mail: **registrarfriu@icfre.org**. The application fee may be paid in the University A/C **No. 30205818545 IFSC Code SBIN0010640, SBI, Soil Conservation, Branch, Dehradun** through **RTGS/NEFT/Google Pay**. Only the eligible candidates shall be provided link by 16th Sept., 2020 (5.30 P.M.) to appear before the Interview Board for online interview on 18th Sept., 2020 (10:30 A.M. onwards)

University reserves the right to withdraw advertised position at any time without assigning any reason. University also reserves the right to fill or not to fill the position and its decision in this regard shall be final.

The position is purely temporary and on Contract basis. The offer of appointment does not provide any assurance or guarantee of subsequent employment in FRI Deemed to be University/ and its Research centres/ FRI/ICFRE.

(Dr. A.K. Tripathi)
Registrar
FRI Deemed to be University
registrarfriu@icfre.org
Ph. No. 0135-2751826, 0135-2224439

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
CIN No.U27310WB1920GOI003601
"KANKARIA CENTRE", (4TH & 5TH FLOOR), 2/1, RUSSEL STREET, KOL-71

NOTICE INVITING e-EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (e-EOI)
e-TENDER NO.: B&R / HO / NEW JOB / EOI / 01

Applications for Expression of Interest (EOI) is invited from Reputed, Resourceful and Experienced Agencies meeting prescribed Qualifying Criteria for "EMPANELMENT OF PROJECT CONSULTANT FOR PROVIDING MANNING AND DESIGN CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGN OF ROB/UNDER PASS /RAIL FLYOVERS(RFO) / VIADUCT ETC. IN VARIOUS RAILWAY PROJECTS AND OTHER PROJECTS INCLUDING DESIGNER SUPERVISION DURING EXECUTION". Sub Head : Preliminary Survey & Soil Investigation, Preparation of Soil Investigation Report , Designing ,Preparation of Drawing of Major & Minor Bridges /Crossovers /Underpass /ROB / RUB / Structural Girder /PSC / RCC Girder and other Allied Works, Pre –Tender Assistance and Providing Designer supervision during Execution In Various Railway Projects and Other Projects.

Date of hosting in CPP Portal : 24.08.2020.
Last Date of submission of Bid: 07.09.2020 upto 17:00 Hours.

Interested Bidder(s) will have to be enrolled & registered with the Government e-Procurement System; through logging on to https://eprocure.gov.in.

Addendum / Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted in Company's Website:www.bridgeroof.co.in and CPP portal: https://eprocure.gov.in only.

Oushadhi
The Pharmaceutical Corporation (I.M.) Kerala Ltd.
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
Kuttanellur, Thrissur-14, Kerala
Ph: 0487- 2459800.
Website: www.oushadhi.org

E-TENDER NOTICE

E2-33/19 20.08.2020

Online bids are invited by Oushadhi from eligible bidders for executing the following work. **Name of Work:** Upgradation of Fire Protection System at Oushadhi, Kuttanellur, Thrissur. **Tender No:** OUSHADHI/KITCO/MH/05/2020. **Consultant:** KITCO LTD, Kochi. **Ph: 0484-4129000/ 09892500392.** For further tendering process please visit the website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in** from **24.08.2020**

(Sd/-) Managing Director

aavin THE TAMILNADU COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' FEDERATION LIMITED
AAVIN ILLAM, 3-A, Pasumpon Muthuramalinganar Salai, (Chamiers Road) Nandanam, Chennai- 600 035.
Ph : 044 - 23464500, Fax : 044 - 23464505, E-mail : aavindgmeng@yahoo.co.in, aavintenders@aavin.tn.gov.in

Ref.No:8478/PROJ.5/2020 **TENDER NOTICE** DATED : 21.08.2020

The TCMPF Ltd., invites **TWO PART TENDERS** by way of **OFF LINE / E-SUBMISSION** from the reputed Manufacturers / Suppliers for following works / items for Various Metro Dairies / DCMPUs under Schemes / Federation own funds.

Sl.No.	Name of the Items / Works	Pre-bid Meeting	Tender Submission	Technical Bid Opening
1.	5KL Capacity Bulk Milk Cooler, Genset and its accessories -69 Nos. for various DCMPU	03.09.2020 at 11.30 AM	15.09.2020 Upto 02.00 PM	15.09.2020 at 2.15 PM
2.	Fuly Automatic Butter Milk / Flavoured Lassi Pet Bottle Machine -1 No. for Products Dairy, Ambattur			
3.	Metal seal for DCPP & various DCMPUs			
4.	Plastic seal for various DCMPUs			
5.	10 KL Tri purpose Centrifuge Cream Separator -1 No. For Tirunelveli DCMPU			
6.	30 Milk Storage Silo - 1 No. For Karur DCMPU			
7.	Imported 284 TR Evaporative Condenser -1 No. for Ambattur Dairy			

Document sale between **26.08.2020** to **14.09.2020** from **11.00 A.M.** to **3.00 P.M.** cost - **Rs.2,000.00 + 18% GST and Rs.100.00** extra by post. For downloading tender documents, EMD and other details, refer website **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and **www.aavinmilk.com** for off line / **www.tntenders.gov.in** for E-submission. Tender documents can be downloaded at free of cost.

DIPR/3151/TENDER/ 2020 **Deputy General Manager (Engg.)**

ANDHRA PRADESH INTEGRATED IRRIGATION AND AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION PROJECT
(World Bank Aided Project)

Request for Bids (National Competitive Bidding)
Tender Notice No.01/2020-21, Dated: 17.08.2020.

The Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Circle, Chittoor District, Pin Code: 517001, Andhra Pradesh invites Bids from the intending Bidders for various works of 1) Rehabilitation of Mangasamudram tank Cascade No.06 in Mangasamudram Village in Chittoor mandal in Chittoor District- Rs.123.70 lakhs, 2) Rehabilitation of Kogila Cheruvu Cascade No.07 in Tenebanda village in Chittoor mandal in Chittoor District - Rs.90.80 lakhs, 3) Rehabilitation of Diguva Chenganna cheruvu (Independent) in P.Yellampalle village in Irala mandal in Chittoor District - Rs.40.95 lakhs, 4) Rehabilitation of Mahadevamangalam tank (Independent) in Mahadevamangalam village in G.D.Nellore mandal in Chittoor District - Rs.66.40 lakhs, 5) Rehabilitation of Veera Raghava reddy cheruvu (Independent) in Putramaddi village in Irala mandal in Chittoor District - Rs.66.60 lakhs, 6) Rehabilitation of Naraganti tank Cascade No.09 in Naragallu village in Gudipala mandal in Chittoor District - Rs.199.30 lakhs, 7) Rehabiltation of Charavakanipalli Cascade No.19 in Enuguvaripalli village in Penumuru mandal of Chittoor District - Rs.14.87 lakhs, 8) Rehabilitation of Bangarakka Cheruvu Cascade No.10 in Vasanthapuram (V) in Gudipala(M) in Chittoor District - Rs.147.50 lakhs, 9) Rehabilitation of Pedda cheruvu Nellepalle (Independent) in Nellepalle village in G.D.Nellore mandal in Chittoor District - Rs.71.73 lakhs, 10) Rehabilitation of Kotha cheruvu(Independent) in Navabupeta (V) in Kalakada (M) of Chittoor District- Rs.155.70 lakhs, 11) Rehabilitation of Gumma Samudram tank in Burakayalakota village in Mulakalacheruvu mandal of Chittoor District - Rs.93.20 lakhs, 12) Rehabilitation of Bayyappu Reddivari Cheruvu (Independent) in Gundluru(V) in Kalikiri(M) of Chittoor District - Rs.74.60 lakhs and 13) Rehabilitation of Veerappa cheruvu Cascade NO.20 in Sarimadugu (V) in Gurramkonda(M) of Chittoor District- Rs.56.00 lakhs under "Andhra Pradesh Integrated Irrigation and Agriculture Transformation Project (APIIATP)" from Dt: 24.08.2020 to Dt: 30.09.2020 upto 05.00 PM.

For complete details visit us at : **www.apeprocurement.gov.in**
For queries : Contact no : **08572232932.**

Sd/- (M. Surendra Reddy),
Superintending Engineer, W.R.Dept., Irrigation Circle, Chittoor.
DIPR No.265PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2020-21, Dt: 21/08/2020

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
1, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines, Prayagraj-211001

E-Tender Notice

E-Tender Notice No. ELCORE-T-NGP-HYB-NED-GTL **dated: 17.08.2020**

On behalf of the President of India, Chief Electrical Engineer/PS, Central organisation Railway Electrification, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil, lines Prayagraj-211001 invites following E-TENDER:-

Name of Work: Design, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system along with Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for a period of four years (excluding warranty period of three years) for 25kV Single phase 50Hz ac Traction Power Supply in Dharamavaram - Pakala section (Gr.263), Nandyal - Yerraguntla section (Gr.-264) of Guntkal Division & Gadwal - Raichur section (Gr.-266) of Hyderabad Division, Pimpalkutti - Mudkhed, Parbhani-Parli Vaijnath section (Gr.-267) & Purna - Akola section (Gr.-268) Nanded division of South Central Railway and Tumsar Road (Excl.) -Tirodi (Incl.) section (Gr.-353) & Balaghat (Excl.) - Katangi (Incl.) section (Gr.-354) of Nagpur Division of South East Central Railway under Railway Electrification Project, Secunderabad as per RDSO Specification No.TI/SPC/RCC/SCADA/0130 (Rev-2) with A&C slip No.-1, 2 & 3 and latest amendments. RTU for Hyderabad, Guntkal & Nanpur will have to be designed for compatible & configure of latest RDSO Spec. with existing SCADA system installed at RCC Hyderabad, Guntkal & Nanpur division which is already in operation.

Bidding Type	Normal Tender		
Tender Type	Open	**Bidding System**	Single Packet System
Tender Closing Date Time	14.09.2020 15.00	**Date Time of Uploading Tender**	17.08.2020 17.08
Pre-Bid Required	No	**Pre-Bid Query Date Time**	Not Applicable
Advertised Value (₹)	**130648667.99**	**Tendering Section**	PSI
Bidding Style	Single Rate for Each Schedule Item	**Bidding Unit**	-
Earnest Money (₹)	**803300.00**	**Validity of Offer (Days)**	45
Tender Doc. Cost (₹)	**10000.00**	**Period of Completion**	11 Months
Contract Type	Works	**Contract Category**	Expenditure
Bidding Start Date	31.08.2020	**Are Joint Venture (JV) firms allowed to bid**	Yes
Ranking Order For Bids	Lowest to Highest	**Expenditure Type**	Capital (Works)

Note:- 1. The complete information of above E-Tender and Tender document are available on IREPS website i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in. 2. Only E-Bids shall be accepted against above Tender.** The e-bids may be uploaded before **15.00** hrs. on tender closing date.

PR/488/20 (FA) *"Serving Customers with a Smile"*

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Every Monday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಹಾನಗಲ್ಲ-581104
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ ವಿಳಾಸ :apmchanagal@gmail.com ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂ 1)08379-262218, 262525
ಕ್ರಸಂ : ಕೃಮಾಇ /ಕೃಉಮಾಸ (ಹಾ)/ಅಧಿಕೆ/ WIF & ವಾಕ್ರಿಯೋ/535-538/2020-21 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13/08/2020

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಹಾನಗಲ್ಲ ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 1) ಅಕ್ಕಿಆಲೂರ ಉಪಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣದಲ್ಲಿ 2014-15ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ WIF ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ 2020-21ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ Construction of Cattle Shed ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ರೂ. 233.64 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು KW-4ರನ್ವಯ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ, 2) 2020-21ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್-1ರಡಿ ರೂ. 116.50 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ವಿವಿಧ 6 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು KW-4ರನ್ವಯ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ, 3) ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್-2ಎ ರಡಿ ರೂ 9.81 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗೊಂದಿ ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಳಗಾಲಪೇಟೆ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗೋದಾಮು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು (KW-1 ರನ್ವಯ) (ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ) ಹಾಗೂ 4) ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್-2ಬಿ ರಡಿ ರೂ. 4.91 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಳತಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಣಗಿಸುವ ಕಟ್ಟೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು (KW-1 ರನ್ವಯ) (ಎಸ್‌ಟಿ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999-2000 ರ ನಿಯಮಗಳಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಫಾರ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ವರ್ಕ್ಸ್‌ನ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರಿಂಗ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಿಡ್ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ/ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣ (ಕ್ರಸಂ 1 ಹಾಗೂ 2ಕ್ಕೆ) ದಿನಾಂಕ 04-09-2020ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18-09-2020 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ (ಕ್ರಸಂ 1 ಹಾಗೂ 2ಕ್ಕೆ) ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22-09-2020 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25-09-2020 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಹಾನಗಲ್ಲ ಮತ್ತು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ E-procurement website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ಇವರನ್ನು ಅಥವಾ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ 08379-262218/262525 ಅಥವಾ 080-22485867/22441076ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು. Special clause: PREVAILING GST WILL BE PAID ON THE TENDERED AMOUNT SEPARATELY AS PER GOVT LETTER NO : PWD65 PWD RDF 2017 DTD 11-10-2018

ಸೂಚನೆ: ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ 01)ರ ಅಕ್ಕಿಆಲೂರ ಉಪಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣದಲ್ಲಿ 2014-15ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ WIF ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ 2020-21ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ Construction of Cattle Shed ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಬಿಲ್ ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ನಬಾರ್ಡ ನಿಧಿಯಿಂದ ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ ಪಾವತಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗಿ ಬಿಲ್ ಪಾವತಿಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬಡ್ಡಿ ಕೋರದೇ ಇರುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾನೂನು ಮೊರೆ ಹೋಗದೇ ಇರುವ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಬದ್ಧರಿರಬೇಕು.

ಸಹಿ/-
(ಬಸವರಾಜ ಸಿ. ಪರಮಶೆಟ್ಟಿ)
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಕೃ.ಉ.ಮಾ.ಸ.ಹಾನಗಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/-
(ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಬಿ ಬಂಗಾರೇರ)
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ಕೃ.ಉ.ಮಾ.ಸ.ಹಾನಗಲ್ಲ.

China successfully launched a new optical remote-sensing satellite from its Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in the northwest part of the country, on Sunday. The satellite, Gaofen-9 05, was sent into orbit by a Long March-2D carrier rocket. A multifunctional test satellite and another satellite named Tiantuo-5 were also launched via the rocket.

Air pollution connected to diabetes

SWEET ASSASSIN

NEW YORK: Indian-origin researcher Sanjay Rajagopalan from the University Hospitals Harrington in the United States has found that air pollution can play a role in the development of cardiometabolic diseases such as diabetes.

A study, published in the Journal of Clinical, discovered that air pollution was a risk factor that contributed to the common soil of other fatal problems like heart attack and stroke. "In this study, we created an environment that mimicked a polluted day in New Delhi or Beijing," Rajagopalan said. "We concentrated fine particles of air pollution called PM2.5," he added.

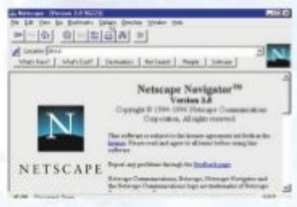
These particles have been connected to risk factors for disease. For example, the cardiovascular effects of air pollution can lead to heart attack and stroke. The research team has shown exposure to air pollution can increase the likelihood of the same risk factors.

EXFILE

EXPIRY OF EXPLORER

Last week, Microsoft announced that they would stop supporting Internet Explorer altogether including IE 11, the latest iteration, this time next year. Here's a look at IEs birth, its early years of boom and why it is discarded....

EARLY DAYS



In 1994, a top of the line commercial browser was dominating the marketplace. Named Netscape Navigator, It had about 80% of the market share in the latter part of 1995.. That's when Internet Explorer 1 was born. Bill Gates, who reportedly woke up late to the promises of internet, wanted Microsoft to develop a browser capable of being the best.

THE BROWSER WARS

This really started the first great browser wars with Netscape and IE going toe to toe to dominate the marketplace. While Netscape still had the lion's share, Microsoft changed the rules of the game by including IE 3 for free in the Windows 95 OS. People no longer needed to pay money; this really was the beginning of the end for Netscape, who open sourced their browser before giving it away for free in 1998.

16 AUG 1995- 30 NOV 2020

Microsoft Teams will no longer support Internet Explorer from Nov 30. Remaining O365 applications will no longer support IE11 from Aug 17, 2021.

95%

AT ONE POINT OF TIME, IE'S MARKET SHARE WAS 95%

THE ARGUMENT AND THE VERDICT

Microsoft argued that their OS wouldn't function without IE. But this argument was laid as companies said that Microsoft put pressure on them to prioritise IE over other browsers. The judge who heard the case ruled that Microsoft be broken into two companies. Even if this overturned, it reportedly scarred Bill Gates.

NEW PRODUCT

After launching IE 11 in 2013, Microsoft moved away from the Explorer series with the launch of a new browser, Edge, in 2015. Even if IE 11 came installed in Windows 10, it was more to run older websites. The writing was on the wall when Microsoft announced in 2016 that only IE 11 would continue to receive security updates and technical support. The company will be ending all support for IE 11 in a phased manner beginning November 2020.

ANTI-TRUST SUIT

With IE's market share over 80% by 1999, they looked set to dominate. But there was an out of court settlement with Spyglass, whose code Microsoft used. Spyglass sued for profits they never received. There was also a case brought by the US govt against Microsoft in 1998. They argued that by giving away the browser without charge and linking it with their OS, they were essentially driving away competition and acting as a monopoly.

BOOM AND BEGINNING OF END

From the late 90s to the middle naughtiest, IE was the preferred medium to any address in the Internet in the world. That it had a market share of 95 per cent in 2003 reflects this fact. But the game changed for good when the likes of Firefox and Chrome entered the market. Microsoft slowly started losing its iron like dominance in this field. It started losing ground after new OS like Android and iOS emerged and IE was rendered incompatible.

X-ray to help know effect on the lungs

COVID RESEARCH

BERLIN: Using a novel technique which enables high resolution imaging of damaged lung tissues, scientists have found the changes caused by severe Covid-19 in the structure of the organ's blood vessels and air sacs, findings that may support the development of new treatment methods against the disease.

In the study, published in the journal eLife, the scientists developed a new X-ray technique which enables high resolution and three-dimensional imaging of lung tissues infected with the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

Using the new method, the researchers, including those from the University of Gottingen in Germany, observed significant changes in the blood vessels, inflammation, and a deposition of proteins and dead cells on the walls of the lungs' tiny air sacs called alveoli. They said these changes make gas exchange by the organ difficult or impossible.

According to the scientists, the new imaging approach allows these changes to be visualised for the first time in larger tissue volumes, without cutting and staining, or damaging the tissue. They said it is particularly well suited for tracing small blood vessels and their branches in three dimensions, localising cells of the immune systems present at inflammation sites, and measuring the thickness of the alveolar walls.

Due to the three-dimensional reconstruction of the lung tissues, the researchers said the data could also be used to simulate gas exchange in the organ. Since X-rays penetrate deep into tissue, they said scientists can use the method to understand the relation between the microscopic tissue structure and the larger function of an organ.

"Based on this first proof-of-concept study, we propose multi-scale phase contrast X-ray tomography as a tool to unravel the pathophysiology of Covid-19," the researchers wrote in the study.

No respite for animals either?

Study by University of California researchers using genomic analysis suggests different species of birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals can be vulnerable to coronavirus

INFORMATION CENTRE

LOS ANGELES: HUMANS are not the only species facing a potential threat from the novel coronavirus that causes Covid-19, according to a new study which says several critically endangered primates such as the Western lowland gorilla, Sumatran orangutan, and Northern white-cheeked gibbon may be susceptible to infection with the virus.

Scientists, including those from the University of California (UC) — Davis in the US, used genomic analysis to compare the structure of the ACE2 receptor protein which the novel coronavirus uses to enter cells across 410 different species of vertebrates, including birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals.

According to the study, published in the journal PNAS, ACE2 is normally found in many different types of cells and tissues, including the cells lining the outer layer of the nose, mouth, and lungs.

Animals with all 25 amino acid residues matching the human protein are predicted to be at the highest risk for contracting SARS-CoV-2 via ACE2

Joana Damas, co-author of study

Of the amino acid building blocks which make up ACE2, the scientists said 25 of these molecules in the protein are important for the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, to bind and gain entry into human cells.

In the study, they used the sequence of these 25 amino acid molecules, assessed how they interact with each other, and modelled its predicted protein structure. Using this model, the researchers evaluated how many of the 25 amino acids are found in the ACE2 protein of the different species.

"Animals with all 25 amino acid residues matching the human protein are predicted to be at the highest risk for contracting SARS-CoV-2 via ACE2," said Joana Damas, a co-author of the study from UC Davis. "The risk is predicted to decrease the more the species' ACE2 binding residues differ from humans," Damas said.

According to the researchers, about 40 per cent of the species potentially susceptible to SARS-CoV-2 are classified as "threatened" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, and may be especially vulnerable to human-to-animal transmission.

"The data provide an important starting point for identifying vulnerable and threatened animal populations at risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection," said Harris Lewin, lead author of the study from UC Davis. "We hope it inspires practices that protect animal and human health during the pandemic."

The study noted that several critically endangered primate species, such as the Western lowland gorilla, Sumatran orangutan and Northern white-cheeked gibbon, are predicted to be at very high risk of infection by the novel coronavirus.

It said marine mammals such as gray whales and bottlenose dolphins, as well as Chinese hamsters are also at high risk of catching the virus.

FACT OF THE MATTER

Asteroid threat in November

NASA PREDICTION

In yet another 2020 surprise, NASA data has predicted that a small asteroid heading towards the Earth has a 0.41 per cent chance of hitting the planet one day before the US presidential election scheduled for November 3. According to NASA scientists, the asteroid "2018VP1" has a diameter of 0.002 km (about 6.5 feet), reported CNN.

NASA says there are three potential impacts. But "based on 21 observations spanning 12.968 days," the US space agency has determined the asteroid probably won't have a deep impact. Earlier, a car-sized asteroid flew past over the last weekend, 2,950 kilometres above the southern Indian Ocean.

Wildfire burns million acres

US ON ALERT

Weary firefighters in California raced Saturday to slow the spread of wildfires that burned nearly one million acres statewide in a week and destroyed hundreds of homes ahead an expected weather change that could bring more lightning strikes like the ones that sparked the blazes.

Responding to the emergency, President Donald Trump issued a major disaster declaration drive to provide federal assistance. Governor Gavin Newsom said in a statement that the declaration will also help people in several counties affected by the fires with crisis counselling, housing and other social services like health, education and nutrition.

BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE

EXPRESS CONNECTS

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M.D.(Ayu)CRAV(Kerala)
Cell : 9448157681
ಆಪ್ರೇಶನ್ ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ಬೆನ್ನುಮೂಳೆ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ
Backbone Treatment Without Operation
ಬೆನ್ನು ಮೂಳೆ ತೊಂದರೆ (Cervical, Lumbar Spondylosis),
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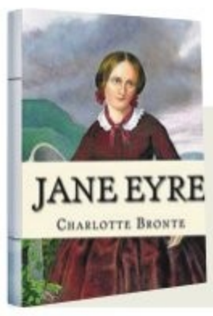


DAY'S DIARY

Manuscript ready

On this day in 1847, Charlotte Brontë finished the manuscript of *Jane Eyre* and posted it to the publisher Messrs Smith and Elder

INSTANT SUCCESS

The novel was out in just eight weeks. By early December, the first edition was almost sold out. By February 1848, a stage play based on the book had opened at the Victoria Theatre in London

PLOT

The novel focused on the story of a plain governess by the name of Jane, who falls in love with her employer Mr Rochester. The novel is credited to have revolutionised the art of fiction

FAILED NOVEL

Brontë's first novel was *The Green Dwarf*. She wrote it under the pen name Wellesley. It was rejected by every publisher

Ganesh to don the white coat in latest film

PG 4

Do online exams pass or fail in assessing the progress of a student during the current times of the pandemic? Schools and parents weigh in

ON A TEST DRIVE

Illustration: TAPAS RANJAN

Simran Ahuja

Rows of tables and chairs, a ticking clock, and the fast-paced scratching of pens on paper. This is what a typical exam scene looked like before the coronavirus pandemic. But as homes double as classrooms, schools are having to gear up for hurdle after hurdle. Priya K (name changed), a parent of a class 6 student in Greenwood High, explains what the exam process looks like now: "Each teacher is allotted a small number of students to invigilate. Before the exam starts, each student has to show the teacher the surroundings of the room to prove that they are alone and no study material is lying open. The teacher uses Microsoft Teams to invigilate and another platform is used to display the question paper." She continues, "During the first exam, there was a stressful moment when my child couldn't scan the QR code to submit the answers. But his teacher helped him since I wasn't allowed to be in the room."

The pandemic has proved to be a testing time not just for students and parents but educators as well, as they navigate new avenues to conduct exams. Aloysius D'Mello, principal of Greenwood High, explains that for primary students, they are carrying out objective assessments through Google forms, whereas for higher classes, they rely on MS Teams and Exam.net to conduct the digital exams. An exam coordinator and D'Mello himself make virtual rounds of the online classrooms. "The students just need to know that there is someone keeping a watch. We assured parents that in case of power or internet problems, they can write to us," says D'Mello, adding that they did face a few instances wherein parents tried to nudge a young ward towards the right answer, and had to counsel the parent.

Agrees Simran Khatwani, who son studies in Class 8 in Sindhi High School. She believes some onus lies on the parents as well. "My son's unit tests were all multiple choice questions, which made the process simple," she says.

Some believe these novel times call for a rehaul of the examination system. After all, how accurate a measure are they? The same thought led Canadian International School to focus more on project-based learning. "This is where student agency comes into play, where they take charge of their own learning. We try to make the curriculum more interesting, and once that interest develops, they learn faster," says MD Shweta Sastri. While the school is yet to decide about the nature of their end-term exams in December, they are currently using projects as an assessment tool. "Every two weeks we send our students a home learning kit with supplies. For example, for a grade 6 science class, students could do simple experiments at home with the items in the kit," she explains, adding that the teachers were also made to go through "professional training" sessions from June to August to help with remote learning and project-based learning.

Meena Venugopal, the mother of a class 5 student of Inventure Academy, says issues like power outages, internet glitches and technical issues, if any, could cause stress in online exams. . The school is yet to inform parents about their plan for holding examinations. "Wouldn't it be better to give it a rest this year?," she asks. Not everyone, however, holds that view. "Technical issues aside, online exams can actually be less stressful for children," says Priya. "In a traditional setup, students have long discussions before and after an exam that can cause anxiety. Moreover, the child has much more time to prepare for the next day's paper," she adds.

Some onus lies on the parents as well. While my son is yet to find out about his mid-term exams, his unit tests were all multiple choice questions, which I think made the process simple and easy.

—Simran Khatwani, mother

We make virtual rounds of the online classrooms. The students just need to know that there is someone keeping a watch. We assured parents that in case of power or internet issues, they can write to us

—**Aloysius D'Mello,** principal, Greenwood High

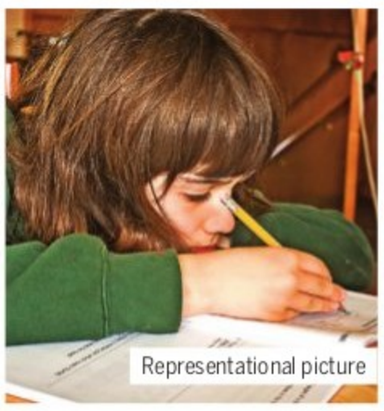
Distance dilemmas

Monika Monalisa

Online classes, missing friends and a disrupted routine... it's been an uncertain time for many students. One would then expect child counsellors to be busy, but the reality of the situation is quite different. With classes being held at home, the resultant lack of confidentiality has led to a decline in numbers. Kala Balasubramanian, a child psychologist at Inner Dawn Counselling and Training services, says, "Earlier, the session used to be between a student and the counsellor, but now with things going digital, parents and teachers are involved too." The counsellor with 10 years experience believes the transparency of a session is questionable when too many people are involved. According to her, children are not just affected by stress from studies but also from their immediate surroundings. "Parents facing job-related issues, loss of revenue, confinement at one place, etc can also affect the child who is staying with them. But a child might not be comfortable speaking about it in the presence of the parents," adds Balasubramanian.

Limited hours for online classes can also be an issue. Supriya (name changed on request), a child counsellor who has been associated with many schools, says, "These sessions tend to take a backseat with many schools following strict guidelines related to timings." Group and individual sessions also play a role. "At school, although there were group sessions, children could also approach us directly, but now it's not the same," she adds.

Owing to the new normal, many schools are trying to find ways to fit in all these sessions. **Sheeba John**, student facilitator at Chaman Bhartiya School, says they are adding more individual sessions. "We are trying to squeeze in one-on-one sessions every fortnight. For confidentiality, we try to keep the parents away unless there is a threat to the child," says John.

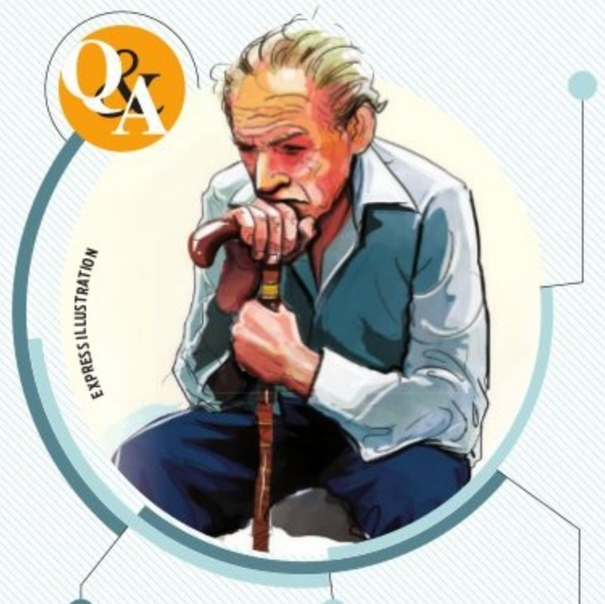


Representational picture

COVID CARE

I AM ELDERLY, IF I GET THE INFECTION, WILL I DIE?

No, getting the infection doesn't mean everyone with the infection dies, majority of the patients do well, with a few exceptions. Hence, good monitoring of your symptoms and oxygen levels with early referral to hospital is important.



I AM 65 YEARS OLD. AM I AT A HIGHER RISK TO GETTING COVID-19?

No, elderly people are not at a higher risk to contract the disease. They are just as likely to get the disease as anyone else.

I AM 65 YEARS OLD. AM I AT HIGHER RISK OF COMPLICATIONS?

Yes, elderly people are at higher risk to develop complications, like longer ICU stay. Risk of death in COVID patients increases with age, and ranges between 4-15 per cent in patients aged 60 years.

I AM 50 YEARS OLD BUT I SUFFER FROM DIABETES. AM I AT RISK TOO?

Yes, people with chronic disease such as chronic lung disease, asthma, liver disease, kidney disease, heart disease, organ transplant, HIV and smokers are at higher risk of developing complications. Hence, you should try and avoid social gatherings and take precautions necessary to avoid getting infections

– Dr Farhan Fazal, Dm Infectious Disease, KMC Hospital

CITY READ

Power cut in the city

The city will be facing power supply interruption on Aug. 25 and Aug. 26, between 10:30am and 5:30pm, due to cable works being done by BESCOM. The areas affected on the first day of the power cut are Kodichikanahalli Main Road, Deo Enclave Layout, Mahaveer Palms Apartment, Perody Guru Apartment, Sri Anjaneya Swamy temple, Kodichikanahalli village BBMP office and surrounding localities. Areas around Sri Someshwara Temple, Someshwara Temple Layout, Ramanashree Enclave, Shanthinikethan School and its surrounding areas will be affected on the second day of the power cut.

Virtual workshop to discuss education policy

Bangalore University will hold a five-day virtual workshop on 'Highlights and Implementation of National Education Policy, 2020', from Aug. 24 to Aug. 28. The workshop will be inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Higher Education, C N Ashwath Narayan. Among the key speakers will be Prof. D P Singh, chairman, University Grants Commission, and Dr Bhushan Patwardhan, UGC vice chairman. Around 10,000 participants are expected to be a part of this event, including students and teachers from various universities.

TALKING POINT

If you really love outsiders, watch their films in theatres: Swara Bhasker

Express Features

Swara Bhasker's latest *Flesh*, which is out on Eros Now, is the first project in which the actor will be donning the role of a cop. In a chat arranged as part of Time Pass, a series of webinars organised by *The New Indian Express* group, and hosted by senior journalist Kaveree Bamzai, Bhasker shared that playing a cop was no mean task. "There was a lot of action involved and it was hard. Almost all male stars have done a cop role while most female actors don't get such a chance even once. So, I'm happy I got to do this character," she said.

Speaking about the series, she stated that *Flesh* is a realistic and unflinching look at the world of human trafficking, which we don't see often. "As it's a series, there was a lot more time to delve into topics with nuance. It is much more than just the cop chasing the bad guy, and this added a level of intimacy to proceedings."

Bhasker credited the creators for the extensive research that she said has gone behind depicting the many layers of trafficking in the series; she is also hopeful for a second season. Director Danish Aslam said that many parts in the show are based on real accounts told by police officers and NGO workers. Bhasker revealed that her character's emotional motivation was also inspired by her personal conversations with police officers from different ranks, who all shared the same frustration towards the system which gets easily manipulated by criminals.

TIME PASS

The actor also dropped a hint about *Veere Di Wedding 2*. "I think the second part is happening. Kareena and Rhea keep joking about it on Instagram; so I'm assuming something is happening," says Bhasker.

Bhasker admitted that her political opinions have affected her opportunities considerably. "Producers tell me I have the reputation of trouble and 'nuisance value'. People tell me they want someone apolitical. I even have a contract/termination letter that says 'you have brought disrepute to our brand due to your participation in CAA and NRC protests'. Are we really a society that respects freedom of opinion? We are not," Bhasker emphasises.

Further, while addressing the developments around Sushant Singh Rajput's case, she said, "We cannot assume the role of a jury. There is a system in place for this. If you really love outsiders so much, please watch their films in theatres. Everyone is talking so much about Sushant now but where were all these people when *Sonchiriya, Kedarnath* or *Detective Byomkesh Bakshy*! released? The issue has been hijacked by people with vested interests and it's tragic. I think we are doing a great disservice to Sushant and his memories," adds Bhasker.

Meanwhile, Swara, who has completed 10 years in the industry, has been working during the lockdown on becoming a producer too. On the acting front, other than the two recent releases – *Rashbari* and *Flesh* – she is excited about *Bhaag Beanie Bhaag*, which will get released on Netflix in the coming months, and *Sheer Qorma*, an upcoming LGBT romance film.

QUICK FIX

What's cooking IN YOUR KITCHEN DURING THIS LOCKDOWN?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

PULIKALI

INGREDIENTS

- **Raw rice flour:** 1 cup
- **Tamarind syrup:** 1/4 cup
- **Turmeric powder:** a pinch
- **Sesame oil:** 1/2-3/4 cup
- **Mustard**
- **Red chillies:** 1-2
- **Urad dal:** 1 spoon
- **Chana dal:** 1 spoon
- **Curry leaf:** a sprig
- Asafoetida a pinch
- Salt as per taste

METHOD

- In a bowl, add rice flour, turmeric powder, salt and tamarind syrup with a little water. Make a thick paste without lumps and set it aside for 15 minutes.
- Heat a pan, pour oil. Add mustard, chana dal, urad dal, red chillies, curry leaves and asafoetida. Saute it.
- Now, add the paste and stir continuously. Cover the pan with a lid and cook on slow flame for about 25-30 minutes until done.

— by Anu Rajagopal, Chennai

TWEET OF THE DAY

PURPLE HERON (ARDEA PURPUREA)

Photo by Elangovan Viswanathan

They breed across Africa, central and southern Europe, and southern and eastern Asia. While some species are migratory, some are mostly sedentary. The bird is similar to the pond heron but smaller and, darker and more slender. It is also more evasive; They breed in colonies and build large nests to support every member. The secretive birds spend a lot of time in private, among the reeds, being most active at dusk and dawn.

BRIGHT SPOT

ART TO THE AID

The Aravani Art Project, a trans women's art collective that works on public art projects, was founded in 2016. They have painted over 50 murals across India and in San Francisco, USA. With the onset of the pandemic, all those projects came to a sudden halt. That's when they decided to bring the street art to people's homes. Their vibrant canvases are now up for sale. Half the proceeds of each sale is given to the artist. A portion of the remaining half is used to buy raw materials like rice, dal, sugar, oil and most importantly, medicines. The women meet once a week at one of their houses. On other days, they use technology to keep in touch and support each other. The artwork come with a personalised note with information on the painter. The group paints almost seven canvases in 10 days. They began selling their art in June and have sold over 100 pieces until now.

Source: The Better India

APPSMART

TerraTime

Start with a visually stunning virtual Earth in the palm of your hand: Real satellite photos drive a live simulation of day/night, clouds, seasons, sun, moon and more

Available on: Android

Mehndi Design 2020

If you are Looking for the latest mehndi designs of 2020 then you need to download this mehndi designs app.

Available on: Android

Wattpad

Discover the world's most-loved social storytelling platform. Wattpad connects a global community of readers and writers through the power of story.

Available on: Android & iOS

SOUND BOARD

STATE OF MIND

State of Mind tells intimate stories of the world's best authors, entrepreneurs, athletes and artists, through an immersive audio experience. ● On Spotify

MYTHICAL MONSTERS

The great heroes of myth wouldn't have been champions without combating monsters in their path. This podcast tells the stories of these beasts and asks what they represent to mankind. ● On Spotify

KALYN'S COFFEE TALK

Kalyn's Coffee Talk, hosted by Kalyn Nicholson, covers a range of topics such as wellness, mental health and learning to live your best life free from self-judgment and doubt. ● On Apple Podcasts

FRESH AIR

Hosted by Terry Gross, the podcast features in-depth conversations with guests from all different industries and backgrounds.

● On Stitcher

THE MOTH

The Moth features the best of the human interest stories told live from Moth stages across the country. ● On Stitcher

REVISIONIST HISTORY

Revisionist History is Malcolm Gladwell's journey through the overlooked and the misunderstood. Every episode re-examines something from the past—an event, a person, an idea, even a song—and asks whether we got it right the first time.

● On Google Podcast

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

KENDASAMPIGE

Ravi, an attendant, has a love affair with Gowri, the daughter of the owner of his company. A set of events leads to him being jailed over a narcotic case. But he manages to flee with Gowri's help.

● Cast: Vikky Varun, Manvitha Harish

YAARE KOOGADALI

Kumara and Natesha escape from a mental hospital and come to the city. They are soon chased by a gangster while their actual truth is revealed.

● Cast: Puneeth Rajkumar, Bhavana

MYTHRI

Siddarama is one step away from winning a sum of ` one crore in a game show hosted by his favourite actor Puneeth Rajkumar. However, scientist Mahadev Godke attempts to ruin his plans.

● Cast: Mohanlal, Puneeth Rajkumar

ANDHA ORU NIMDAM

Kumar, a lawyer and social worker, is in love with Vasanthi, a village girl. However, when his lover's grandfather gets murdered, Kumar sets out to punish the culprit.

● Cast: Kamal Haasan, Urvashi, Major Sundarraman, Thengai Srinivasan

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 NASA VS. SPACEX — WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

What is the difference between NASA and SpaceX? How do the two compare? The Infographics Show explores the differences between the two.

2 WHAT IF CRACKS IN CONCRETE COULD FIX THEMSELVES? BY CONGRUI JIN

Concrete is the most widely used construction material in the world. But it does have a weakness: it's prone to catastrophic cracking that has immense financial and environmental impact. What if we could avoid that problem? Congrui Jin explores how to create a more resilient concrete.

3 YOUR BRAIN HALLUCINATES YOUR CONSCIOUS REALITY BY ANIL SETH

When you wake up and open your eyes, a world suddenly appears. This is the mystery of consciousness: how do the billions of brain cells inside your head generate the experience of "being you?" Join neuroscientist Anil Seth for a delightfully disorienting talk that may leave you questioning the very nature of your existence.

4 LOVE LETTERS TO WHAT WE HOLD DEAR BY DEBBIE MILLMAN

In a series of visual, animated love letters, designer Debbie Millman reflects on the things she's grateful for by exploring her garden, New York City, travel and storytelling. "As we navigate this crisis, I'm hopeful we will find some solace together," she says.

5 A FORGOTTEN SPACE AGE TECHNOLOGY COULD CHANGE HOW WE GROW FOOD BY LISA DYSON

We're heading for a world population of 10 billion people — but what will we all eat? Lisa rediscovered an idea developed by NASA for space travel, and it could be a key to reinventing how we grow food.

FIT BIT

TRIANG MUKHAIKAPADA PASCHIMOTTANASANA

(THREE PARTS FORWARD BEND POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'Triang' means 'three limbs', 'Mukha' means 'face', 'Eka' means 'one', 'Pada' means 'foot', 'Paschima' means 'west' or 'back of the body', 'Uttana' means 'intense stretch' and 'Asana' means 'pose'. It is a seated forward bend that stretches the back of the body and calms the mind. This asana is a more challenging variation of paschimottanasana which is one of the 12 basic postures of Hatha yoga and is also part of the Ashtanga yoga primary series. It opens the Manipura (navel) chakra, the body's energy and vitality centre. Activating the Manipura dispels fear and insecurity and is associated with self-esteem, self-confidence and a sense of purpose. According to BKS Iyengar the 'three parts of the body' are buttocks, knees and feet.

STEPS

- Start with the Dandasana (Staff Pose).
- Bring your left foot back like you do in Virasana (Hero Pose).
- Exhale and try to take hold of the outer edge of your right foot by bending forward. Inhale; pull your arms back.
- Then slowly lift and open your chest.
- Exhale; draw the chin towards your shin. Now, bend your elbows and extend the trunk forward.
- Finally, hold in this position for a 10 to 60 seconds. To exit the pose, exhale and come back to the original position.
- Repeat all the above steps with the opposite side.
- You can practise at least thrice (on both sides) to obtain the benefits from this pose.

BENEFITS

- Regulates the digestive system. Calms the mind.
- Makes the spine more flexible.
- Stimulates and tones the abdominal organs.
- Helps reduce the constipation and flatulence. Helps open the hips.
- Improves the flexibility in the hamstrings, hips and knee joint.
- Helps to remove any kind of swelling in the leg.

LIMITATIONS

- If you are suffering from back and spine injuries, avoid this asana.
- This should be practised in the morning on an empty stomach.
- If you feel any discomfort while doing this pose, release it.
- In the beginning, you can practise under the guidance of a yoga expert.

— by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

GEETHA (Kannada)

Set against the backdrop of the Gokak Chaluvali (the language rights agitation in the 1980s in Karnataka), this movie tells the story of Akash and Geetha whose paths keep crossing as they bump into each other at different stages of their lives.

- Cast: Ganesh, Shanvi Srivastava, Prayaga
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

DRIVING LICENSE (Malayalam)

Superstar Hareendran, famous for his driving skills, loses his licence. However, the issue spins out of control after he locks horns with a motor inspector, who happens to be a fan of the actor.

- Cast: Deepti Sati, Prithviraj Sukumaran, Miya, Suraj Venjaramoodu
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

LUCIFER (Malayalam)

When the leader of a ruling party dies, there is a power struggle to fill his shoes. His adopted son, the mysterious Stephen, steps in and faces challenges in all spheres of life.

- Cast: Mohanlal, Prithviraj Sukumaran, Manju Warrier, Saniya Iyappan
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

SHIVAJI SURATKAL (Kannada)

Shivaji, a policeman, sets out to investigate a high-profile murder of a minister's son. However, while pursuing the leads, he must also deal with his own wife's death.

- Cast: Ramesh Aravind, Radhika Narayan, Aarohi Narayan, Vinay Gowda
- Watch on: Zee5
- Registration: ₹ 99 per month

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

KATHANAM (Kannada)

Anu, an aspiring director, is given a chance to write a script for a movie. As she pens her script, the characters referenced in it start to die in real life, as per her narrative. Anu approaches ACP Randhir to stop further deaths. The dark truths revealed in the investigation make up the rest of the story of Kadhanam.

- Cast: Anasuya Bharadwaj, Randhir, Avasarala Srinivas
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

MEHENDI CIRCUS (Tamil)

A music shop owner falls in love with a girl from a circus troupe that visits his village, but caste and class stand in the way.

- Cast: Shweta Tripathi, Madhampatty Rangaraj, Vela Ramamoor
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹ 199 per month

CHOKED (Hindi)

A bank employee who is struggling to pay the bills finds a secret source of seemingly unlimited cash in her home.

- Cast: Saiyami Kher, Roshan Mathew, Rajshri Deshpande, Amruta Subhash
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹ 199 per month

ENGLISH/FOREIGN

DOCTOR STRANGE (English)

In an accident, Stephen Strange, a famous neurosurgeon, loses the ability to use his hands. He goes to visit the mysterious Ancient One to heal himself and becomes a great sorcerer under her tutelage.

- Cast: Benedict Cumberbatch, Rachel McAdams, Chiwetel Ejiofor
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar
- Registration: ₹ 399 per year

CHEMICAL HEARTS (English)

A high school senior falls in love with a new transfer student who hides a heartbreaking secret.

- Cast: Lili Reinhart, Austin Abrams, Sarah Jones, Adhir Kalyan
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

OKJA (Japanese)

For 10 idyllic years, young Mija has been caretaker and constant companion to Okja - a massive animal and an even bigger friend - at her home in the mountains of South Korea. But that changes when family-owned, multinational conglomerate Mirando Corporation takes Okja for themselves and transports her to New York, where an image-obsessed and self-promoting CEO has big plans for Mija's dearest friend. With no particular plan but single-minded in intent, Mija sets out on a rescue mission.

- Cast: Ahn Seo-hyun, Tilda Swinton, Jake Gyllenhaal, Byun Hee-bong, Paul Dano
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹ 199 per month

ONE AND ONLY IVAN (English)

A gorilla named Ivan tries to piece together his past with the help of an elephant named Stella as they hatch a plan to escape from captivity.

- Cast: Angelina Jolie, Bryan Cranston, Sam Rockwell, Brooklynn Prince
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar
- Registration: ₹ 399 per year

Decoding Dhrupad

Pallavi Srivastava

If you have had enough of culinary experiments and fitness challenges over the past few months, here is a chance for you to acquire a new skill online. Dhrupad singers **Sajan Sankaran** and **Ankita Athawale** are holding a 10-session workshop spread over two weeks, which is open to trained singers as well as those with no musical background. Sankaran and Athawale, both disciples of the renowned Gundecha Brothers, aim to lend an insight into the style of Hindustani classical music that is believed to be the oldest one to have survived until today in its original form.

"The workshop is designed to build an understanding of Dhrupad and a practice routine from zero," says Sankaran, who is based in Bengaluru when he is not studying music at the gurukul in Bhopal. The sessions, organised by city-based Still Space Theatre, begin on Aug 24. "We will try to guide participants as per their current understanding of music. For a practitioner of another form of music, it could serve as an introduction into an ancient and rigorous knowledge system that complements their own practice. It would also be true for other artistes like dancers or actors who wish to enhance their artistic vocabulary through a new but structured learning experience," he adds.

Sankaran has been teaching Dhrupad online for a few years now, and while he believes that it is better to learn in person, he feels online learning still functions "with reasonable efficiency". He also stresses that the surge of free access to online videos notwithstanding, there is space for all forms of engagement. "People do value arts and traditional knowledge systems enough to understand that a detailed workshop takes a lot of effort to plan and deliver," says the 28-year-old IIT-Bombay alumnus.

The encouraging response to the workshop is yet another evidence that the future of Dhrupad is safe, feels Sankaran. "I think the answer would've been different a few decades ago. But through the efforts of maestros, Dhrupad is fast regaining its status as a mainstream art form," he says.

The Covid pandemic is a time to accept, assess and adapt, he stresses, talking about how online concerts have been a reassuring way to stay connected. "The lockdown has given us the luxury of slowing down in other areas of life and diving deeper into riyaz. However, challenges remain in the uncertainty around the nature of live performance, and livelihood for the community," says Sankaran, who feels blessed to be closely associated with the Gundecha Brothers. "In the Guru-Shishya tradition, there is little distinction between the personal and the professional. We get to interact with them not only in class but also in everyday life situations, whether it is cooking in the kitchen or working in the garden," he says. "In one way or another, every day spent with them is a lesson in life."

(The workshop, being held from Aug. 24 - Sept. 6, costs ₹6,000. For details, visit stillspacetheatre.co.in)

Under the guidance of textile expert Pavithra Muddaya, 40 women have tried their hands at needlework on furnishings, which will be up for sale online

EMPOWERING THROUGH EMBROIDERY

Vidya Iyengar

In February, when Pavithra Muddaya, founder of Vimor, identified marginalised women in Gadag who would be trained for three months, she hadn't imagined that the works by "raw hands" would be up for sale six months down the line. Forty women worked their magic of English hand embroidery on the dead stock bought from weavers. Cushion covers, runners, curtains, stoles, quilts, and masks will be up on the virtual pop-up on September 12. It is organised by make up artist Dipthi Aashok and image evangelist Bia Sandhu Taneja.

It all started with Muddaya wanting to help women affected by the flood in North Karnataka. One thing led to another and she finally zeroed-in on a marginalised group in Gadag. In February, two experienced trainers, Robert and Kairul, started teaching these women, and despite the pandemic and subsequent lockdown, one of the trainers continued with the classes as and when it was possible. "A second batch was also started during the lockdown, because we simply couldn't say no to a group which was so enthusiastic to learn. Next, we plan to hold a similar session with the differently-abled," says Muddaya, who has just been informed that the Department of Women and Child Development has given them a building, Strishakti Bhavan, where classes can be conducted.

> **Our initial idea was to hold three-month training sessions where women would be trained for second month and the third would be a teacher training programme which would enable them to teach others**
>
> —Pavithra Muddaya, founder, Vimor

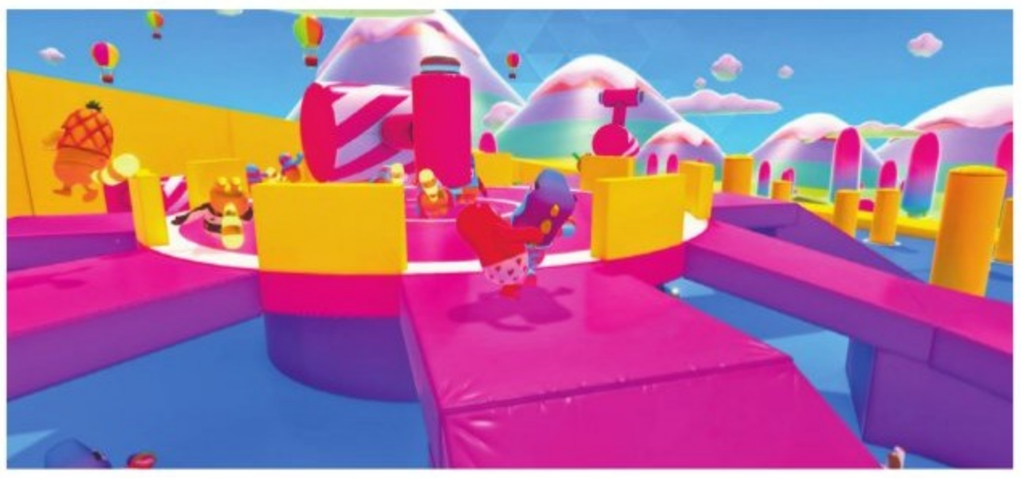
While everyone has been asking about sarees, which Vimor has been known for considering that even former prime minister Indira Gandhi bought sarees here, Muddaya didn't want to overwhelm women who were newly introduced to this art. "The weavers, though, worked through the lockdown with whatever yarn they had. In fact, they now call them 'corona sarees'," she says with a laugh. But back to training women, Muddaya had hoped that it would create a ripple effect. "In fact, our initial idea was to hold three-month training sessions where women would be trained for second month and the third would be a teacher training programme which would enable them to go to other villages and teach others," she says.

Finding that the pandemic has put lot of people on the back foot, both financially and morally, Aashok points out that this is an attempt to step up the morale. "A part of the proceeds will be going to the Vimor Foundation, because we want to empower weavers through training, mentorship,and support," she says, adding that the biggest challenge is curating this pop up, which will feature clothes and lifestyle products. They are doing it on Zoom, which is a first for the team.

ARE YOU GAME?
Anusha Ganapathi

(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

IT IS OK TO FALL, GUYS



This week, we discuss the Fall Guys: Ultimate Knockout. This is a virtual obstacle race based game, which I sincerely regret livestreaming. I received a fitting payback for all the years I laughed at people being "foolish" on the popular reality TV shows – *Takeshi's Castle* and Wipeout. At least people on these live shows can have multiple excuses for their hilarious failures; Fall Guys offers none but personal incompetence.

This virtual obstacle course starts with 60 players and has four elimination rounds. The fifth round is where the winner is determined. I had to look up this fact, since I never got this far. There are different challenges, varied enough that you don't rage quit because you fall off repetitive tracks (the good part is that you get a do-over). You might remember some of the obstacle courses as they are a more vibrant version of the ones on the aforementioned reality shows. There is a lot of scope to introduce even more levels, and time for the developers to change the colour scheme so it looks less tacky. I am terrible at it, so have no ulterior motive in hoping that the interest in this game does not fizzle out over time. Although I say this about almost every new online game that I play, I am really hoping that this annoyingly colourful game will bring the downfall of Battle Royale.

Why has it gone viral? The answer is that this game has hit the holy gaming trifecta – it is easy to play, is accessible, and is online! Let me explain. It has only 3 controls – run, jump, grab opponents/objects. It is also available on all platforms, except the mobile. But if stays on top of the charts for another few months, I am confident that it will be on the tiny screen within the year. It is also a game that you can play with friends! You can laugh as they hilariously get kicked off course by a rotating fan or empathize by walking alongside them as rapidly rolling fruits cause them to fall on their faces. Fall Guys also has the unlikely advantage in that it is extremely entertaining to watch, even if you're viewing random people playing. I will easily take another 10000 falls before giving up.

Play it if you have ever shouted advice over the TV screen at *Takeshi's Castle* participants.

Two to tango

For most, Sunday is considered to be the blissful day when one can take a break from the gym. Not for Diganth Manchale. The actor's wife, Aindrita Ray, took to Instagram to post a story that shows what Diganth's Sunday morning looks like. Spoiler alert: It involves some heavy duty weight lifting. Guess there's no stopping this fitness buff! But this didn't stop the couple from indulging in some sweet treat, with Ray making some Bengali delicacies.

Pulling out the right card

Express Features

Card games have always been a pastime, but more so during this lockdown. This is proved by city-based new-age gaming company Gameskraft entering the Guinness World Records for hosting the largest online rummy tournament. Held on one of their offerings, Rummyculture, more than 1,09,000 Indians participated in the competition.

According to their data, the competition which was open to anybody saw the heaviest participation from users in south India. Users from Tamil Nadu comprised around 40 per cent of the tournament's player base, while those from Andhra Pradesh (22%), and Karnataka (7%) also registered a strong presence. The final winner Nanthakumar Palinasamy from Tamil Nadu, won the first prize of ₹1 lakh after 41 deals and seven rounds. "I've been playing rummy online for about a year now and have played across multiple gaming platforms. "Winning a nationwide tournament as massive as this, after just one year of being an active gamer, is a moment of great pride for me. This achievement also highlights how, more than luck, it is skill that determines victory in this game," he says.

Prithvi Singh, founder of Gameskraft, points out that over the past few years, there's been a dramatic shift in India's online gaming sensibilities, as skill-based games such as rummy find greater traction across the country. "Married, single, home-makers, retired professionals, junior/mid-management personnel, tech-savvy business leaders- people across all demographics are logging onto the platform to test their skills against one another," he says, adding that their record reflects this growing craze for skill-based online gaming. "We are now looking at building on it with more experiential and engaging gaming offerings," he says.

According to Singh, the Indian gaming industry is currently valued at an estimated ₹3,500 crore. "Rummyculture, for instance, has an average of 1 lakh users playing rummy online at any given time. Through the platform, we want to tap into the growing digital opportunity for online skill-based mobile gaming, which has steadily been gaining traction amongst Indians," he says.

> **Through Gameskraft, we want to tap into the growing digital opportunity for online skill-based mobile gaming, which has steadily been gaining traction amongst Indians**
>
> —**Prithvi Singh,** founder, Gameskraft

CITY READ

Webinar on trends in energy

The Department of Physics of city-based CMR Institute of Technology is organising a three-day Faculty Development Program (FDP) on the subject, 'Recent Trends in Energy and Related Materials'. It will take place from August 26 to 28. The main objective of the webinar will be to train teachers on a foundation of theory, practical knowledge and skills that will enable them to undertake research in the field of material science. The talks will be delivered by faculty members from different research institutes. For registration and other details, visit: www.cmrit.ac.in

Applications for guest faculty positions

The post-graduate departments of Bangalore University and Departments at University Visveshwaraiah College of Engineering are calling for applications for the posts of full-time/part-time guest faculty positions in various post-graduate departments. Candidates, who are eligible as per UGC/AICTE criteria, can submit their applications along with marks cards and other relevant documents to the chairpersons/directors/co-ordinators of the respective departments on or before September 5. Details of departments where guest faculty positions are open are available on bangaloreuniversity.ac.in.

SMARTADS
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2 Floors in 21st Main BDA
45x90 3 BHK in 17th Main
40 Ft Road, 50x75 WF Site
in 18th Main in 4th T Block
40x60 NF& SF in 7th Block
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9449172931

GANESH TO DON THE WHITE COAT IN LATEST FILM

Ganesh

Shailesh Kumar B S and Shashikala P, both doctors in real life, are collaborating with the Golden Star for a film, which will be on medical profession with the concept -- passion until last breath

A Sharadhaa

Ganesh, who is waiting to resume shooting for *Gaalipata 2*, followed by Sakath and *Trible Riding*, has confirmed another project during the lockdown. The film brings together a new combination of the producer, director and actor, who are collaborating for the first time. The Golden Star, who has been tagged as a romantic hero in the Kannada film industry, has often picked up roles that explore his versatility. His next film will have Ganesh playing the role of a neurosurgeon. The movie will be produced by Dr Shailesh Kumar BS, who has been working as a neurosurgeon for 20 years, and will be directed by Dr Shashikala P, an ophthalmologist who is college mate and a colleague of the producer.

Shailesh Kumar is a big fan of Dr Rajkumar, and this is what brought him to the creative field. The producer made his debut with 6ne *Maili*, and his second project, *Talvarpete*, is currently rolling. The yet-to-be-titled project with Ganesh, which is on medical profession will be his third film made under the banner of Sri Nagabrahma Creations.

According to Shailesh, the story created by Shashikala with a concept 'passion until last breath' traces a doctor's emotional life. "I am a doctor with a vast experience in the field of medicine, which I want to bring out on the screen. The story was written keeping Ganesh in mind, as we felt that he has the capability to justify this particular role. He comes across as an actor who expresses through his eyes, which is required for this subject," he says, revealing that Ganesh agreed to play the role of a neurosurgeon the moment he read the profile. "A double confirmation came from the actor within 20 minutes of Shashikala narrating the story," says Shailesh Kumar. "The film will be a commercial entertainer with five songs, three fights, beautiful music, with a lot of emotions," he adds. The project will start in 2021.

> The story was written keeping Ganesh in mind, as we felt that he has the capability to justify this particular role
> — Dr Shailesh Kumar B S, producer

Shashikala P

Shailesh Kumar B S

Aditi Arya

Upendra

Ravi Chandra to resume shooting from today

Director Om Prakash Rao will start a two-day shooting schedule for a talkie portion at a five star hotel; Upendra, Aditi Arya and Nimika Ratnakar to participate in the shoot

CE Features

Even as Upendra plans to start shooting for R Chandru's *Kabza* from September 1st week, the actor will be participating in a two-day shoot for *Ravi Chandra* on Monday and Tuesday. The film is being directed by Om Prakash Rao. Confirming the plans for the shooting, producer R S Srinivas says they are spending approximately ₹20 lakh per day to light up the entire Lalit Ashok, where the shooting will take place. Joining the Real Star to complete the talkie portions will be Nimika Ratnakar and Aditi Arya. The latter, who made her debut in *Kurukshetra*, has flown down from Mumbai to take part in the shoot. *Ravi Chandra* will also see Crazy Star Ravichandran, who will be working with Upendra for the first time. The film is inspired by the Telugu flick, *Balapu*, and it will feature the duo as brothers on the screen. Shanvi Srivastava is also a part of the cast, along with Pradeep Rawat who plays the role of an antagonist. The team will be left with another 16 days of shooting schedule, including a song, which they plan to complete as early as possible.

Ravi Chandra is being made under the banner of R S Productions. It will have Chandramouli writing the dialogues, while Srikanth will handle the editing work, and Arjun Janya has composed the music. Ravi, who was also a part of Om Prakash Rao's previous film, *Chandralekha*, is taking care of the cinematography.

Nimika Ratnakar

Vikram Ravichandran to get raw and rugged for his next

Manu Nag

The actor will be making an official announcement soon on his collaboration with director Manu Nag, who will be helming his first feature film

CE Features

Even as audiences wait for Vikram Ravichandran's debut release, *Trivikrama*, the son of Crazy star Ravichandran has greenlit his second project. Manu Nag, the director of the short film, *White*, which was based on eye donation and starred Priyamani, and also had Amitabh Bachchan providing a voiceover, will now be helming his first feature film.

Manu has also worked as an assistant director in films like *Athidhikal* (Malayalam), *Belli* (Kannada) and Yogaraj Bhat's *Dana Kayananu* (Kannada). Manu reveals that he has come up with a raw subject, which will portray Vikram in a rugged look, and the story will revolve around the emotions between parents and their son. "Vikram has liked the script, and especially his characterisation, and has given a go-ahead to the project. The preparation work has begun," says the director, adding, "An announcement about the production house, the rest of the cast and crew, will be made by the team, and the actor soon."

Trivikrama directed by Sahanamurthy has already raised expectations with its posters and the teaser. The film, which is now in post-production work, is pending with 2 songs. The Kannada film under Gowri Entertainers is all set to have a pan-Indian release with the commercial entertainer being dubbed and released in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Hindi as well.

> Vikram has liked the script, and especially his characterisation, and has given a go-ahead to the project. The preparation work has begun
> — Manu Nag, director

Patty Jenkins: We are committed to putting *Wonder Woman 1984* on the big screen

CE Features

Director Patty Jenkins is committed to releasing her upcoming film, Wonder *Woman 1984*, starring Gal Gadot, in theatres. "It's so great on the big screen," Jenkins said during the film's panel at DC FanDome.

"We all worked so hard to bring something that would be a big visual spectacular great time. So we're going to stick it out. We believe in putting it in the cinema, and I can't wait for you all to see more today and I can't wait for the movie to come out soon," she added.

The virtual DC FanDome also debuted a new trailer for the Covid-delayed *Wonder Woman 1984*, giving the first substantial look at the film's villain, Cheetah, played by Kristen Wiig.

The preview showed Wiig's transition from a jealous friend to supervillain, giving the first glimpse of her character in cheetah-print clothing. The film also stars Chris Pine and Pedro Pascal.

The Warner Bros movie skipped its original June release date due to the Covid-19 pandemic and is currently scheduled for release on October 2.

A still from the film

The Flash will introduce concept of the multiverse: Ezra Miller

CE Features

Actor Ezra Miller brought out the first glimpse of his upcoming film, *The Flash*, and said that the superhero movie will delve into the concept of the multiverse allowing other heroes to interact in one narrative.

Miller along with director Andy Muschietti, screenwriter Christina Hodson and producer Barbara Muschietti joined the virtual DC FanDome to tease the 2022 film.

It is because of the concept of the multiverse that Michael Keaton and Ben Affleck will make an appearance as Batman in the film. At the virtual gala, the team showed concept art for the character's new and improved suit. "This film is immensely important because if you look around at the DC universe you have all these characters who exist in their own bubbles," said Miller, who portrays the role of speedster Barry Allen. "We even have multiple iterations of the same story. By opening that (multiverse) door, all of these stories and characters can start to collide. It blows our minds the level of possibilities that exist with this character and this story," he added.

The film deals with time travel, with Allen attempting to right the wrongs of his past, which saw his mother getting murdered and his father getting jailed.

"He is someone who has the power to change the events of the past, but by doing so, can deteriorate the fabric of the space-time continuum," said Muschietti, who promised a film that will deliver both heart and humour. While talking about the themes of the movie, he said: "It's a time travel story, which is very exciting. He's someone who has the power of changing the events in the past but in doing so can change the space-time continuum."

The filmmaker also revealed the first concept art for the film, which showed a new suit built by Bruce Wayne. "All of these stories and characters can start to collide," said Hodson, adding, "the cinematic multiverse is going to be born out of this movie". The Flash was first announced in 2014 for a 2018 release. Soon, Miller got attached to the movie and the character was first introduced in 2017's Justice League.

Now, the filming of *The Flash* is expected to begin in 2021, with the team aiming for a June 3, 2022, release.

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